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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH, 2013

COWBRIDGE BOOK FESTIVAL AUTUMN ROUND-UP Page 3



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POPPY APPEAL
 Pages 20-21



'Local recycling site blaze could keep burning for two days'

RESIDENTS ARE WARNED

RESIDENTS within two miles of a Llandow industrial estate have been told to keep their windows and doors closed for the next two days after a fire broke out in a recycling plant, writes **PHILIP IRWIN**.

Yesterday (Wednesday) smoke was still billowing from a building at the Site Serv recycling centre.

The blaze started at 7.20pm on Tuesday (November 5). The cause of the fire is yet to be established.

The Fire Service were at the scene and a spokesman explained that the warning to keep windows and doors shut was not due to the nature of the "compacted recycling material" that was burning.

The warning concerned the building's roof, which contains asbestos. Initially, residents in Llantwit Major and Southerndown were warned to keep windows shut, but this could change, depending on wind direction.

South Wales Fire and Rescue said it sent 12 engines and six water ladders.

Siteserv employs around 200 people and was set up more than 16 years ago by brothers Nigel and Philip England.

One Llantwit Major resident told The GEM: "When I woke up I thought I could smell burnt plastic, but I put that down to Bonfire Night!"

Vale MP Alun Cairns said: "I am very concerned about fire and fall out on local residents and businesses."

"I have spoken to the Police and Fire Service and am grateful for all their work in bringing the incident under control."

PUPILS HELP OUT WITH HARVEST!



Pendoylan Primary School pupils handing over harvest food donations to Bob Kennedy of the Pontyclun Foodbank. SEE STORY ON PAGE 6.

POLICE APPEAL AFTER ASSAULT

POLICE in Cowbridge are investigating an assault on an 18-year-old man which occurred at the rear of the Horse and Groom public house at around 10.30pm on Saturday, October 26.

A police spokesman said: "A group of males were trying to gain access to the pub through the gate at the rear of the property that leads into the beer garden."

"The landlord intervened to prevent them from entering and he was assisted by two members of staff."

"As a result, the landlord was assaulted by the group of males, as was a regular customer who also tried to assist. The second man, who comes from Ogmore-by-Sea, required hospital treatment for facial injuries."

Anyone with any information concerning this incident who has not already contacted the police is asked to contact Llantwit Major police station on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111 and quote reference 6213038215.

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Val's close shave for leukaemia cause

WHEN I heard that my niece had leukaemia at the age of 13, I decided I had to fundraise.

To make it unusual, I decided to have a No.1 haircut (right).

I would like to thank all the bowlers at Llantwit Major, and at Sully indoor bowls, and anyone else who sponsored me for their encouragement and generosity.

A big thank you also to Sublime Hair in Rhooose for doing the deed on October 31.

A very special thank you to my partner, John, for his support. I hope to have raised nearly £700, so thank you everyone.

Val Baelz.



'The LDP is disproportionate for conservation villages on A48'

PLANS for the villages of Bonvilston and St Nicholas to increase their number of dwellings by 70 per cent and 60 per cent respectively are unsustainable.

The unprecedented scale and density of the proposed housing in both minor rural settlements does nothing to preserve or enhance the character of the conservation villages.

It is with incompre-

hension that we read in The GEM last week Coun Moore's comments that Welsh Assembly Government criticism of the previous LDP of overloading the minor rural settlements with disproportionate housing allocations has been addressed in the new LDP plans.

For our small rural communities the reverse is blatantly true with the new LDP proposing a dramatic increase in size to both villages.

St Nicholas and Bonvilston Community Council

MIXING WATER AND ELECTRICITY?



THROUGH The GEM, can I ask that (as the deadline for objections to this application has passed) the Vale Council planning committee members view the attached photo, for this is Flemingston Moor, where the latest planning application for a Solar Panel Farm is to be sited!

Is it really such a good idea to mix electricity supplies with so much water?

There are times when it floods far worse than this picture shows.

Peter Carr, Flemingston.

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We will (in certain circumstances) protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, DON JOHN, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7E OR email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

RIISING COUNCIL TAX IS 'A SCANDAL'

WITH regard to the 'View From The Vale' article in The GEM, on October 31, 2013, the Vale Council Leader, Coun Moore states that a council tax rise is 'inevitable' in the next financial year due to central government cuts.

Is this at all shocking, or even news?

Council tax rises year on year, regardless of whether times are good or bad. It will be yet another inflation busting rise that Coun Moore last year dismissed as "just the price of a cup of coffee a week".

Come April, we will all have to find the price of yet another cup of coffee, or possibly even two, on top of all the other costs of cups of coffee from previous years when some people have had no wage increases at all in that time.

And this is just to cover the outrageous increases in council tax, let alone any other inflation busting price increases, such as for domestic energy, road fuel, food etc.

Coun Moore would do well to realise that many

Council tax rise: 'enough is enough'

SO now the cat is out of the bag and Coun Neil Moore the Leader of the Vale Council, has said it is now inevitable that once again council tax will have to rise, to plug the gap in the amount of money the council is going to receive from the Welsh Government next year.

He also states that the council may have to bring forward the cuts they had proposed for 2015/2016. Now it looks as if job cuts, leisure centres, libraries etc, will face the brunt of the cuts. Isn't it ironic the council can plead poverty, yet can manage to find a six figure sum

to spend on their chamber, which included over £50,000 on chairs?

Where on earth do they expect the residents of the Vale to get this money from to keep paying extortionate council tax demands? It really is time to say enough is enough.

Perhaps they would like to tell us what cuts councillors are going to make. Are they prepared to take a cut in pay, as have council employees?

Yes, I know this is being caused by the Welsh Government, but when you see the amount of waste these politicians spend our money on, then plead poverty, it really is sickening.

DJ Radford, Barry.

Vale Council should 'appeal to the ref'

FRUSTRATION with the failure of the Vale Council to attract regeneration funding is beginning to slip into the past and soon, no doubt, all will become a distant memory.

Many of us will recall the words of irritation from our leading Vale councillors including: annoyed; extremely aggrieved; disgusted; stunned; the Minister changed priority; it was a misguided decision, and a very good bid.

In view of their strength of feeling, one would think an appeal should be inevitable, so it comes as a complete surprise to learn that a statement at a recent cabinet meeting indicated that no appeal would be submitted.

So our councillors are having it both ways by publicly claiming a foul without even bothering with an appeal to the referee.

John Donovan, FocusBARRY member.

people gave up buying cups of coffee long ago as they could not afford it.

Since 2001, when I bought my house in the Vale, council tax has increased for my abode by 250 per cent!

No other bill increase in the same time comes anywhere near this outrageous fact.

Council Tax is essentially a monopoly, at least with domestic energy we can switch and save, or just not put the heating on to save on the bill.

Expensive homes pay disproportionately little council tax compared to the cheaper bands.

Council tax increases are way out of control and have been for years, so it cannot only be blamed on cuts from central government.

It is the biggest scandal for all homeowners, unless one has a mansion of course!

Mr C Fitzgerald, Llantwit Major.

'Is Barry falling behind other Welsh towns?'

A RECENT visit took me to the Blackwood Miners' Institute at Blackwood in the county borough of Caerphilly.

I went with a friend of mine who has lived in Barry all his life.

We attended a concert by Andy Fair-weather Low and The Low Riders which was a sell out.

After the concert was over, we decided to make our way home but on exiting the venue we were tempted by the aroma wafting from a local chippy and bought some of the delicious chips on offer.

We then strolled along Blackwood's high street.

We were blown away by the standard of shops,

coffee houses and big name retailers - all sharing in the success of a bustling high street.

We both noted that there were no boarded up premises, no signs of a decaying trend in shopping experiences anywhere along the length of Blackwood's high street.

It was a very pleasant experience indeed to see such a success story in such times of economic austerity.

Barry seems littered with charity shops, card shops and boarded up shop fronts. It is one of, if not the largest town in Wales, and is falling behind such places as Blackwood, Bridgend, Caerphilly and other notably vibrant and successful towns in Wales.

Barrie V Evans, Coordinator, The Barry First Group.

Put off by the airport

WHEN I retired to this area in 2001 I was delighted to know that an international airport was only down the road - that was until we used it.

We have used the airport only twice in the following 12 years because it appeared to us that we, as passengers, got in the way. Our experience was that the running of the airport was for the convenience of the 'authorities', rather than for the passengers. Car parking is

a disaster - or was.

Perhaps it has changed now and the couple of miles round trip to return to the entrance has been altered. Maybe a disabled parking area is no longer next to a set of steps and has enough space for more than the couple of cars.

It's even possible that customs and excise, immigration, and baggage handling, are sited on the same level, rather than upstairs and downstairs.

The fact is, I am not prepared to take the chance. I shall go elsewhere.

Allan Jones, Penarth.

Controls can be added to shale gas drilling

NICK Stuart is quite right to draw attention to the lack of 'strict controls and guidelines' on fracking (GEM, October 31 letter).

When agreeing to Coastal Oil & Gas's drilling application, the Vale Council ignored the impact on the sensitive environment and wildlife, despite plenty of evidence on the Llantrithyd site submitted to them.

They rubber stamped the company's very high noise levels at nearby homes, far above the World Health Organisation's 30 dB (decibel) limit for disturbance to sleep.

Residents near quarries in the Vale are very aware of noise levels from quarrying, having to tolerate levels of over 40 dB in the daytime, but workings stop evenings and nights.

The Vale Council officers have applied the daytime quarrying noise limits to drilling both daytime and night.

Their excuse was that the inspector allowed this at the Llandow Inquiry two years ago.

That was because the officers failed to support Friends of the Earth arguments for the WHO night-time levels at the inquiry. New permits

for fracking-drilling close to communities and in wildlife areas are very different from long-established quarries with buffer zones.

After failing to argue the case on drilling noise at the Llandow inquiry, the council officers are taking their failure as a precedent for the whole Vale. And, as Mike Hancock's letter points out (GEM, October 31), we might expect 400 drill-sites through the Vale.

We saw the chairman of the planning committee put pressure on the members by saying they must not risk the £40,000 costs of another appeal inquiry. This implies we cannot expect the Vale to make planning decisions on merit.

They could insert strong requirements on shale-gas drilling in the LDP (as Andrew Davies AM suggested). Neil Moore's new version includes nothing, yet there's official support in the EU Commission and European parliament resolutions on requiring Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for all shale gas activities, including drilling - the door to strict controls that Nick Stuart seeks.

Max Wallis, Barry & Vale Friends of the Earth.

Woolly advice...

THE Prime Minister, David Cameron, advises those faced with rising energy bills to wear jumpers, presumably to keep torsos warm.

So of course we should also wear:

Woolly trousers to keep bottoms and legs warm; woolly socks to keep feet warm; woolly caps to keep heads warm; gloves to keep hands warm.

So what should we wear to keep noses from turning blue with cold? Gas masks?

It is ludicrous to suggest we should continually remain wrapped up inside our homes where it is basic human nature to want to feel relaxed by kicking off street clothes. Ludicrous advice like this could only come from an out-of-touch Prime Minister.

Marc Delaney, Barry.

• Email your letters to The Editor at: gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk including your FULL NAME, ADDRESS, AND PHONE NUMBER.

HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL NOVEMBER 14)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary.

For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 - 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
07 Thur	08.38	9.9	21.01	9.7
08 Fri	09.24	9.6	21.51	9.2
09 Sat	10.13	9.1	22.41	8.7
10 Sun	11.20	8.7	23.49	8.3
11 Mon			12.29	8.4
12 Tues	01.11	8.2	13.48	8.5
13 Wed	02.31	8.3	14.59	8.8
14 Thur	03.34	8.7	15.55	9.1

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

Vale villagers establish links with Balcombe campaigners

VILLAGERS in Llantrithyd who are opposed to test drilling have had a meeting with residents from Balcombe in west Sussex who campaigned during the summer against drilling for oil.

A spokesperson for Llantrithyd Villagers Against Drilling said: "We asked Gillian Maher and Sue Taylor from Balcombe to come and speak to us because it's clear that what happened in their village during the summer may soon be happening here."

"Sue and Gillian told us that the peace of their rural community was shattered when the giant trucks hauling in the equipment for exploratory drilling near Balcombe arrived in July. "When the drilling started in August

the birds disappeared from their gardens.

"By September, the local authorities in West Sussex had been left with a £4m bill for policing the peaceful 1,000-strong protest camp that sprang up, and the housing market around Balcombe had been seriously affected."

The spokesperson said: "Is this the Vale Council's vision for life in Llandow, Cowbridge, Llantrithyd, Llancaf, Bonvilston, Dyffryn and St Nicholas?"

"As a group of residents, we have a fresh resolve to stop this happening."

Sue Taylor, who helped to set up the website and group, Conservatives Against Fracking, commented: "I want fracking to stop in the UK. I think it's an enormous mistake."

A hive of activity at the Cowbridge Friendship Club's monthly meeting

THE October meeting of the Cowbridge Friendship Club was a hive of activity, with members displaying their artistic flair by making decorations

in preparation for their contribution to the Christmas Tree Festival at Holy Cross Church.

There was a kaleidoscope of colour and we can't wait to see them all displayed on the Cowbridge Friendship

Club Christmas Tree.

Then it was time for afternoon tea with homemade sandwiches and cakes.

At our November meeting, the speaker will be Philip Bowen, who will give a talk on Osborne House, where quite a few of our members have been to visit, and then we will get ready for the Age Concern Christmas party, where all members are invited.

Meetings are held on the last Thursday of every month, when we have a variety of activities. For more information, telephone 01656 668446.

Pat Smith

Scout 'Posties' get ready for a festive rush

LAST year was very successful for the Scout Christmas Post in Cowbridge, with record sales of nearly 14,000 stamps, which contributed over £2,100 to the Scout Group.

This money is used to pay for some of the activities of the Scouts, Cubs and Beavers, and the maintenance of the Scout hall. Even with this contribution, each boy and girl has to pay £30 each term.

This year, unfortunately, the price of each stamp has increased to 25p; 20p will be kept by the Scout group selling the stamp and 5p goes to the cost of printing and administration. This is still considerably less than the Royal Mail stamp.

This year, the last posting date is Monday December 2. I realise this is very early, but it allows two clear weekends before Christmas for Scouts, families, and volunteers to deliver the cards. However, cards will not be delivered before December 7.

When the cards are collected in Cowbridge,

they have to be sorted into 47 different areas. Each area is then bundled up and taken to a central sorting office in Cardiff, where it is distributed to its correct destination.

Cards for the Cowbridge area, sorted by the other 46 groups, are then brought back to the Scout Hall.

These, together with those not needing to be sent to Cardiff, are then sorted by road, etc, for Cowbridge town and Llanblethian, and by village.

The cards are collected by our 'postmen' on the Friday after last posting and delivery takes place on the weekends of December 7/8 and 14/15.

All of this is done voluntarily and depends on the help of Scout group families and friends, without whom this could not happen.

Please remember that the following areas are not covered by the Scout Post and any cards addressed to these will not be delivered:

Bridgend, Porthcawl, St Brides Major, Cornstown, Pencoe, Pontyclun, Miskin, Caerphilly, Newport, Marshfield.

David Weber

FIRE AT LLANDOW ESTATE

RIGHT: The scene at Llandow Trading Estate yesterday morning (Wednesday), with smoke billowing high into the sky from the Site Serv building.

Fire officers have warned that it could continue to burn until Friday. Residents within a two mile radius have been told to shut their windows and doors, because the roof in the building contains asbestos.



COWBRIDGE BOOK FESTIVAL AUTUMN SERIES ROUND-UP

THE Cowbridge Book Festival's Autumn Series got off to a flying start with an absolutely fabulous 'Girls' Night Out' with Jo Carnegie at the Quarter Penny Café.

The irreverent Jo regaled her audience with hilarious tales of life in the fictional Beeversham, the setting for her new book *Party Games* (rumoured to be based on Cowbridge).

Natalie Isaacs and her team provided a delicious supper and 'the girls' also had the chance to try some beauty treatments provided by Karma Beauty.

From Beeversham, to a fascinating evening

spent discussing 50 Years of Doctor Who.

Chris Barry of Comic Guru chaired a lively debate between two leading Doctor Who authorities, the highly acclaimed science fiction writer Alastair Reynolds, whose thrilling new Doctor Who adventure *Harvest of Time* has just been published and Andy Frankham-Allen the author of *Companions: Fifty Years of Doctor Who Assistants*.

The audience was impressed with the enthusiasm and in-depth knowledge of the writers and very keen to participate in the discussion.

Best-selling author Ben Kane delighted his audience by arriving dressed in full Roman uniform wielding his sword and shield.

Ben talked about his book *Hannibal - Fields of Blood*, describing Hannibal's march on Rome.

He also described his own charity march on Hadrian's Wall wearing full military uniform, no mean feat this, as the shield alone weighs a stone.

Ben is not only a highly articulate speaker, it was also noted by one member of an appreciative audience that he had the best pair of legs ever to appear at the Cowbridge Book Festival!

Following Ben Kane was not going to be easy but the increasingly popular Crime Forum did not disappoint.

A former spy, Chris Morgan Jones, (*The Jackal's Share*) a former criminal barrister, MR Hall (*The Chosen Dead*) and a former lawyer, William Ryan (*The Twelfth Department*), talked very frankly about their previous careers and what inspired them to take up full time writing.

The audience quickly became engaged in the discussion and participated in a very lively Q & A session.

These three highly acclaimed crime authors were also happy to meet and chat with members of the audience over a glass of wine after the event.

A change in tempo was provided by BBC Radio 2's much loved gardener Terry Walton who entertained his fans with humorous anecdotes about life on the allotment and the many interesting characters to be found in his book *The Allotment Almanac*.

He soon established a great rapport with his audience and offered plenty of technical help and practical tips, not only for the garden but for life in general.

The final event for the Autumn series was spent in the company of the delightful food writer Genevieve Taylor.



Genevieve Taylor.

very handy book *A Good Egg*.

Visitors to the festival have been treated to interesting and enthusiastic presentations and lively debates covering a variety of genres and they also have the satisfaction of knowing that all proceeds from these events will be donated to The Noah's Ark Appeal, Children's Hospital of Wales and Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research.

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VILLAGE LADIES STEP OUT ON THE CATWALK TO SUPPORT GOOD CAUSE

PHOTOGRAPHS by IAN DIXON

VILLAGERS in Peterston-super-Ely recently hosted a fashion show in the church community hall.

The ladies of the village modelled a wide range of clothing supplied by Samantha B.

A lively evening was thoroughly enjoyed by a full house, fortified by a bar run by Ian Pearson and Hywel Thomas, plus a supper provided by councillors.

Delyth Hurley and Jan Parry, who organised the event.

On the night, more than £500 was raised for the hall funds.



LEFT:
Organiser
Delyth Hurley
with Samantha B.

RIGHT:
Organiser
Jan Parry!



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ROW BREAKS OUT OVER UHB HOSPITAL CUTS

“WAITING LISTS ARE ROCKETING AND UNSCHEDULED CARE IS IN CRISIS”

A ROW has broken out over job cuts at the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board – with Conservatives saying that 350 jobs will go, and the health board saying that a “relatively small number” will be made redundant.

The Shadow Minister for Health, Darren Millar AM, said: “It’s absolutely barmy to cut hundreds of staff at a time when waiting lists are rocketing and unscheduled care is in crisis.”

The South Wales Central Assembly Member – and Leader of the Welsh Conservatives

– Andrew RT Davies AM, blamed the Welsh Government.

He said: “This news comes as a result of swinging Labour cuts to the NHS and the fact is that health boards are being dangerously under-funded, forcing them to jump through hoops to make ends meet.”

“It is clear that Cardiff and Vale has been hit particularly hard and as we enter what forecasts expect to be another harsh winter, the timing couldn’t be worse.”

“The whole situation is extremely worrying and it is hard to envisage care standards not being compromised.”

Tracy Myhill, Cardiff and Vale University

Health Board’s director of workforce and organisational development, who is also its deputy chief executive, said: “It is important to make clear that Cardiff and Vale University Health Board is not making 400 members of staff redundant.”

“When we launched our Section 188 consultation back in June we said that, while some 384 people were potentially at risk, we were committed to ensuring that we found alternative ways of reducing our workforce costs, and that making staff redundant would be the last resort.”

“While we have made no secret of the fact that our financial position is challenging, the vast

majority of our proposed workforce changes have come about as a result of modernising services and adopting new and more efficient systems and ways of working.

“The whole point of consultation is to look at and agree with our trade unions, the mitigating actions which can be taken to avoid making employees compulsorily redundant wherever possible. This is the process we have been involved in since June and which, in the case of some proposed changes, is continuing.”

“During the consultation process, we have been able to identify a range of actions which

by **PHILIP IRWIN**

help us to make the changes we need to, without recourse to redundancies.

“These have included redeploying staff into vacancies, redesigning our services, staff leaving through our voluntary early release scheme, and deleting some vacant posts where they are no longer needed.”

“We are confident that, by the end of the year, only a relatively small number of staff will find themselves in a redundancy position.”

Andrew RT Davies said the problem was that the health board was under-funded to the tune of £15 million.

He argued: “In a Wales Audit Office report earlier this year, the Auditor General predicted a 2013/14 net loss at Cardiff and Vale of £36.1 million.

“Despite this, the board has been allocated just £21 million from

additional Labour government funding, announced as part of this autumn’s draft budget.

“That leaves a funding gap of £15 million pounds.”

He claimed that other health boards were getting preferential treatment, and said that the Aneurin Bevan Local Health Board is set to receive £26 million in extra cash, almost £8 million more than the Wales Audit Office’s estimate of the funding gap it needed to close.

A Welsh Government spokesperson said: “The cumulative impact of the UK Government’s decisions means that our budget has been cut by £1.7 billion in real terms since 2010-11.

“The impact of these cuts on all public services, including the NHS, is inescapable. We know that health boards are facing unprecedented levels of demand and additional burdens, and have responded by increasing the health budget in Wales by £570 million over three years.

“Cardiff and Vale Health Board is not making 400 members of staff redundant. Faced with increasing demands against a backdrop of austerity, it is modernising and creating more efficient systems and ways of working.

“As a result of these changes, some staff are being redeployed, some are taking voluntary early release, and where posts are no longer needed, those posts are being removed.

“We are reassured that compulsory redundancy will affect a very small number of staff, as a last resort.”



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NEWS FROM ST BRIDES

THIS year’s Remembrance Day service on November 10 in St Bridget’s Church, St Brides, is at the earlier time of 10.50am.

Since 1921, the nation has come together to remember the sacrifice that British and Commonwealth men made, not just for the Great War but for World War Two and all subsequent wars and conflicts.

Now 90 years on, the Royal British Legion is still helping service men and woman and their families, so please give generously for your poppy.

Produce market

THERE will be a produce market on the second Saturday of the month with photograph seascapes of Ogmores-by-Sea and

Southerdown, pure silk hand-dyed gifts for Christmas, free range eggs, Bric-a-brac in aid of funds for Cubs and Scouts, flowers from the local flower shop, home cooking cakes and preserves.

Come and support the market and enjoy a chat and a cup of tea. Christmas is not far away!

THE community council held a meeting on October 14. Many objections were made against the wind turbine at St Brides Court (Tyn y Caecy) following a previous refusal. The council resolved to stand by their original comments.

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NEW TRAIL IS A 'WOW' WITH PENDOYLAN PRIMARY PUPILS



Grace and Amalie, the trail's designers.

PUPILS at Pendoylan Primary School couldn't wait to try their brand new Trim Trail, which was completed recently.

It was based on designs by last year's year-6 pupils, Grace and Amalie; we're lucky to have had such talented artists at the school.

The 'Eco School' pupil committee chose the winning design and it was constructed by 'Designer Parks Ltd'. Very

News from Pendoylan Primary School

importantly, the trail was funded by our brilliant Friends Association and by the Fairwood Trust's Barry Hitchcock and Charles Middleton.

Food Bank

AS part of the school Harvest celebrations, Mr Bob Kennedy from the Pontyclun Food Bank

The new Trim Trail.

visited to collect food donations. He was thrilled by how generous our pupils and parents had been and the food will now go towards helping less fortunate local families.

To find out more about the work that Pontyclun Food Bank does, visit www.pontyclun.foodbank.org.uk.

DJ



The 'Eco School' committee, Amanda Baker of the Friends Association, and the Fairwood Trust's Barry Hitchcock and Charles Middleton.

Rotary Club's Westminster visit



VALE MP Alun Cairns welcomed members of Cowbridge Rotary Club last week to the Houses of Parliament.

The group met their MP as they arrived at Westminster, before they were taken on a tour of the Houses of Parliament.

Edward Philpin from Colwinston who organized the trip said: "It was an excellent day despite the weather forecast, which thankfully did not materialise. We had a good question and answer session which gave us a detailed insight into the workings of Parliament. This was

really appreciated by the Rotarians present.

"The professional guide obviously had a detailed knowledge of the Palace of Westminster and again we learnt a lot.

"I must also thank Alun's assistant, Katharine Pearce, for all her excellent work in helping me organize the visit.

Mr Cairns added: "It is always a pleasure to welcome local visitors and groups to Parliament. It is a great opportunity to share the history, culture and work that is going on. If any group is interested in visiting, I hope they will let me know."

Pictured with Mr Cairns, back row: Colwyn Jones, Mrs Pam Jones, Gerry Lloyd, Edward Philpin, Rotary Assistant Governor Bob Wilson. Front row: Mrs Beth Philpin, Mrs Diane Lloyd, Alan Cairns MP, and Mrs Eleanor Wilson.

Ponds, panels and platforms

TWO new pond dipping platforms and a new information panel have been constructed at Porthkerry Country Park using grant aid and donations of timber.

They have been designed to complement several new ponds constructed in partnership with the Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust, and will be used to engage local children in the natural wonders of the pond.

The work has been undertaken by the ranger service with the help of

their enthusiastic volunteers.

A three-year research project by the RSPB, published recently, showed that four out of five children in the UK are not adequately 'connected to nature'.

Cabinet member for environment and visible services Rob Curtis said: "It's vitally important to get children interested in nature and these ponds, platforms and panel will be used by schools, community groups and visitors to the park to learn all about the biodiversity of the pond."

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VALE MP's VIEWPOINT

PM's visit to Wales has put the ball into Labour's court

LAST week the Prime Minister, David Cameron, visited Wales and made several significant announcements.

On Wednesday, he announced that the first NATO summit to be held for a generation in the United Kingdom will take place in Newport.

This is a huge event for the UK and I am delighted that it is being held in Wales.

It will bring world leaders to south Wales for the first time. Never before has a serving US President visited Wales.

The Prime Minister stated that Scotland had the Commonwealth Games, London staged the Olympics, Northern Ireland the G8 and now it is Wales' turn.

This is an excellent announcement and provides an unprecedented opportunity to promote our community globally. Imagine the cost of trying to buy the advertising equivalent to the publicity that we will gain internationally.

The second announcement came to confirm the financing of a new M4 motorway around Newport. This is long overdue and I have been lobbying on this for some time.

I am delighted that the UK government have agreed to a funding mechanism that enables it to become a reality. It will be a huge boost to commuters, businesses and private travellers who are fed up of queuing in traffic jams.

It is a strategic highway that will



Vale MP Alun Cairns reports to GEM readers

help the south Wales economy – and beyond.

The third announcement was a response from recommendations of the Silk Commission. Effectively, the Silk Commission, which was set up by the UK Government, concluded that the Welsh Government should be responsible for raising some of the money it spends.

The Welsh Government are always calling for greater spending and this time, the UK government has intervened, enabling it to happen, if they are prepared to take the political risk.

The recommendations are quite

obvious as the Welsh Government are always calling for greater spend and David Cameron has now put the ball firmly in their court.

It has significant political consequences and I hope these new powers are used wisely – there will be no looking to Westminster.

It is interesting to note that Scotland accepted some of these powers in 1999, yet have still not used them.

These changes are important for the long term stability for Wales, which I have raised in the House of Commons on several occasions.

These announcements must lead to a settlement that will not require further change for a generation. Such confusing changes over recent years have led to a confused model of accountability. Members of the public find it difficult to understand who is responsible for what.

We need stability and accountability, as it is easy to play the blame game. It needs to be noted that the Labour Party in Wales has used council taxes over the last 12 years to raise additional funds and then lay the responsibility on the local authorities – most of whom at the time were not Labour run!

These announcements will make a strong Wales inside a strong United Kingdom. The Government will put forward a Bill and then it is up to the Welsh Government to trigger the referendum. I hope that Ministers in the Welsh Government see this announcement as being a strong and responsible future for Wales.

Aberthaw's power station is celebrating its 50th year

ABERTHAW
Power Station is celebrating 50 years of generating electricity to power UK homes and businesses.

On October 29, 1963, Aberthaw was officially opened as one of the UK's most efficient coal-fired power stations. Fifty years on, the site, owned by RWE npower, is still going strong and is able to generate enough elec-

tricity to meet the needs of more than 1.5 million people.

Employees past and present came together to mark the occasion, with former power station manager Clive Smith, presenting current power station manager Phil Allen, with a brass model of Aberthaw B.

A spokesperson said: "The site of the station was originally a golf course prior to the construction of the Aberthaw A

Power Station, which opened in October 1963 and closed in 1995. Aberthaw B Power Station opened in 1971 and has three generating units with a total capacity of 1,500MW.

"The Aberthaw site has produced enough electricity in its life to

power the whole of Wales for 20 years.

"Aberthaw Power Station is one of the most efficient coal-fired power stations in the UK and over the past five years we have invested £230 million in environmental technologies to improve our performance."

Phil Allen, Aberthaw Power Station manager, said: "The station has played an important role, not only generating safe and reliable electricity but also in the local community.

"It has employed hundreds of people, enjoyed partnerships with local charities and schools, and has put millions of pounds into the local economy."

AGE CONCERN FREE ADVICE

Age Concern will hold a free information and advice event on Thursday, November 14, from 10am to 2pm at the Paget Rooms, Victoria Road, Penarth.

Information on offer will include: local Age Concern services available; free foot care health checks and reflexology; mobility and food delivery specialists; local solicitors regarding reduced rates on Will writing; information on other legal matters, such as lasting powers of attorney (LPAs); local financial advisors; pre-paid funeral plans from Golden Charter, and equity release specialists, Bower Retirement Services.

Call Age Concern Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan on 029 2068 3604 to find out more or go along on the day.

School's Christmas shopping evening

FOLLOWING the success of last year's event, Ysgol Sant Baruc will be holding a Christmas shopping evening in the school, on Wednesday, November 13, between 6.30pm and 8.30pm.

There will be a variety of high quality stalls, many handmade crafts, along with some traders from the local high street. Please come and join us for a glass of mulled wine and some retail therapy!

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Call Gareth for more information

Ploughing Society is to support the Ed Evans' cause

THE Vale of Glamorgan & Hedging Society held its committee meeting at the Six Bells Inn last Thursday evening.

The chairman, Andrew Studley, welcomed all those attending and said he was very pleased to see a large number of younger members from the farming community present.

It was reported that the annual ploughing match in Gileston was a great

success with well over 25 tractors and ploughs on the field.

Basil George, of the Ferguson Club, thanked the committee and officers for their support in staging the first ever European Ferguson T20 Class competition.

The society will be staging the 2014 ploughing match at Tyn y Cae Farm, Marcross in September. The date will be announced in January 2014.

It was also decided that the annual tractor run from Frank Sutton's yard in St Mary Hill will again take place in support of the Ed Evans Foundation and will be run in April 2014 – date to be confirmed.

The chairman suggested that, as the society is now well established and has now staged four ploughing and hedging events, it is time to think of gathering together a list of those who would be prepared to support the society as members.

The decision was made to run a ploughing day in early 2014, when judges and coaches will be on hand to give instructions and advice to those who would like to take up this craft, or to brush up on the tech-

niques of ploughing.

The chairman ended the meeting by repeating his pleasure at seeing so many young men having an interest in the craft of ploughing.

Anyone interested in any of the events mentioned above, or in becoming a member of the society, should contact the chairman, Andrew Studley on 07980 921990.

Basil George

PACT meetings

Barry

CADOC PACT at the Palmerston Community and Learning Centre, on Wednesday, November 13, at 6pm.

COURT PACT at the Ilminster Scout Hall, Ilminster Street, Barry Library, on Thursday, November 14, at 6pm.

A police surgery will be held for Colcot residents at Colcot Community Centre on Thursday, November 21, between 3pm and 4pm.

CASTLELAND PACT at the Civic Offices, Holton Road, on Monday, November 25, at 7pm.

GIBBONSDOWN PACT at the Residents Board Office,

Coychurch Rise, on Tuesday, November 26 at 10.30am.

Penarth and Vale

LLANTWIT MAJOR PACT at Llantwit Major Leisure Centre on Wednesday, November 13, at 7pm.

LLANDOW and EWENNY PACT at Ewenny Village Hall, on Wednesday, November 20, at 7pm.

LLANDOUGH PACT at the Royal British Legion, Penlan Road, Llandough, on Monday, November 25, at 7pm.

WENVOE PACT coffee and chat at the Aubrey Arms, Bonvilston, on Tuesday, November 26, at 11am.

Welsh athlete is charity's new ambassador

RHYS WILLIAMS, the European champion and London 2012 Olympian over 400m hurdles, has become the newest patron of World Child Cancer.

Welshman Rhys, son of international rugby player JJ Williams, is currently in pre-season training.

With a busy training schedule and very little spare time, Rhys has said he is still willing to help build awareness

and generate support for World Child Cancer.

He spoke with passion about the charity's work: "Every child deserves a chance in life, the chance to live a healthy and happy life. World Child Cancer is doing everything to help children all around the world with cancer.

"I am very proud to be associated with such a charity. If you can help in any way, I would ask you to do so."

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If you have a drink problem... THEN SUPPORT AND HELP IS AT HAND

EXCESSIVE drinking can wreak havoc in the lives of people and the negative effects are manifested in anti-social behaviour, family breakdown, crime and ill-health.

As Alcohol Awareness Week approaches (November 18 to 24) one national organisation is keen to let people know that if they are having a problem with drinking, help is at hand.

Martyn (53) a spokesman for Alcoholics Anonymous, told THE GEM the organisation wanted people to know there were local groups ready to help people with a problem.

He knows about the negative side of alcohol abuse because he is in recovery himself. He started drinking at a young age and in his words "arrived at adolescence with a great immaturity".

Martyn explained: "I had little money so I became a petty thief, taking anything I could sell to get money to buy drink."

"I loved drinking in the company of other people and the image I had of myself was of me gliding across the dance

by **TIM CHAPMAN**

floor of the down-town discos!

"I took no responsibility for my attitude or behaviour at all, but spent most of my time trying to convince others I was perfectly normal which was what I wanted to be."

"Alcoholism is a progressive, selfish illness and those closest to me got the worst damage."

"I gradually became ill. My mental health started to suffer and I became isolated and paranoid."

"I got worse as I drank more. My nervous system suffered. In the end I was virtually alone."

"I had lost my career, my family and my home. I lived with a friend, an addict, who had been released from the local lockup ward, and who I left for dead for two and a half days after I found him overdosed."

The Christmas and New Year period was particularly difficult for Martyn because of society's drinking culture.

ROCK BOTTOM

But during one festive season in the early 1990s, he had a change of heart.

"It was Christmas time

in 1993 and I was still in deep denial, with no joy at all in my life. I suddenly sat upright and had what can only be described as a moment of clarity."

"I had reached what 'AA' calls rock bottom, a point which I was not prepared to go beyond."

"I broke into my own house - I wasn't supposed to go there - and used the phone to ring Alcoholics Anonymous."

"I took my last drink at 4.15 am on Tuesday, January 4, 1994."

For Martyn, the run-up to Christmas is a time of emotional importance as he approaches the anniversary of the day he kicked his drink problem.

"By maintaining my sobriety with AA I have become the person I was meant to be, and the father I was supposed to be."

"I have learned in sobriety to relax and let my hair down. I am grateful that AA has shown me how to live my life and to be content enough with it to be able to live without alcohol or any other mood altering chemicals."

LOCAL GROUPS

For people struggling with addiction to alcohol there are local Alcoholics Anonymous groups who are keen to help.

In Barry, there's a meeting every Wednesday at St David's Church, Colcot Road (8pm). In Penarth, there's a meeting at Albert Road Methodist Church on Sundays at 8pm.

An AA spokeswoman said: "We also have a free open event at Albert Road Methodist Church on Sunday, December 1."

"People are welcome to come if they have a personal or professional concern about alcoholism."

"We will have four speakers - three at various stages of recovery, six months, 10 years and 20 years, and someone from our sister group Al-Anon, which helps the families and spouses of alcoholics."

The doors open at 7:30 pm; from 8pm to 9:30pm the speakers will talk, followed by a buffet, refreshments and a chance for a chat.

To find out where you can get help from a group in your area, go to: www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk/; or call the AA National Helpline on 0845 769 7555.

Local choir's surprise performance at gala



The rock choir at the Keep Wales Tidy event.

GUESTS at the Keep Wales Tidy 40th anniversary fundraising gala dinner (Thursday, October 30) enjoyed an unexpected singing surprise, as more than 50 rock choir members from Pontyclun and Cowbridge staged a shock flash mob, engineered by local rock choir leader, Stephanie Bailey.

The event took place at the Vale Hotel and Spa Resort in Hensol, and marked the end to a year of 40th anniversary celebrations.

Stephanie had been mingling with unsuspecting guests and just as everyone sat down to dine, she burst into song, performing the Motown classic 'Ain't No Mountain High Enough'.

As she reached the chorus, stealthy rock choir members who'd

been pretending to be waiters, threw down their serving napkins and joined in. The doors then burst open to reveal even more choir members and they finished the song under red, white and green spotlights, representing the Welsh flag.

She said: "I'm very proud that we managed to keep the flash mob secret and seeing the astonishment on everyone's faces made it all worth the effort!"

It's been a busy year

for Stephanie and her rock choir members in Pontyclun, Bridgend and Cowbridge. Highlights include performing at Barry RAFA 75th year celebrations in King Square, and Cowbridge May fair; carrying out a flash mob for Ty Hafan in The Hayes, Cardiff; and singing at Swansea Quadrant Centre in aid of Comic Relief.

The excitement is set to continue, as they prepare to perform at various festive events in the

area, including Bridgend 'Carols in the Pavilion 2013'; the famous Cowbridge Reindeer Parade and Christmas Lights switch on; the '2 wish upon a star' Christmas fayre in All Hallows Church, Miskin; and at St David's Centre, Cardiff City Centre on November 14, in support of Ty Hafan.

For more information, visit www.rockchoir.com or telephone 01252 714 276.

Llanilltud Primary School celebrates Diwali festival

BEFORE half term Llanilltud Fawr Primary School infants celebrated the Hindu festival of Diwali, 'the festival of light'.

Over the course of the week, the children enjoyed learning all about how it is celebrated.

On the last day, all of the pupils gathered in the hall to share their work.

Nursery made traditional sweets, reception designed henna patterns and performed the story of Rama and Sita. Year-one made beautiful rangoli patterns and year-two made diva lamps.

We were then all able to join in with some Indian dancing led by Mrs Booker.

It was great fun and a lovely way to enhance our curriculum and welcome in the dark nights.

SEE PICTURES ON PAGE 13

Vale of Glamorgan Deposit Local Development Plan 2011 - 2026 Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Adnewid Bro Morgannwg 2011 - 2026

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The Vale of Glamorgan Council has prepared Local Development Plan (LDP) documents for the above Plan. The LDP will, upon adoption, replace the current Development Plan and form the basis for decisions on land use planning for the Vale of Glamorgan.

The LDP contains a number of local planning policies and makes provision for the use of land for the purposes of housing, employment, retailing, recreation, transport, tourism, minerals, waste, and community uses. It also seeks to identify the infrastructure that will be required to meet the growth anticipated in the Vale of Glamorgan up to 2026.

The 6 week consultation period will commence on Friday 8th November 2013 and will end at 5pm on Friday 20th December 2013.

All documents are available for inspection on the Council's website at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/lp. Hard copies are also available for public inspection free of charge during normal opening hours at the following locations:

Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Office, Holtan Road, Barry, CF63 4RU
Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry Docks, Barry, CF63 4RT
Vale of Glamorgan Council, Alps Depot, Quarry Road, Wenvoe, CF5 6AA
All Vale of Glamorgan Libraries

In addition, public exhibitions are to be held at follows, with Officers available to discuss the Deposit LDP between 1pm & 7pm
Cynhelir arddangosfeydd cyhoeddus hefyd yn y mannau canlynol i'w bydd swyddogion wrth law i drafod y Cynllun Adnewid wrth law 1pm a 7pm

November / Tachwedd 2013 from 1pm - 7pm

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Monday 11th / Dydd Llun 11 | at BARRY Dock Offices / Y BARRU Swyddfeydd y Doc |
| Tuesday 12th / Dydd Mawrth 12 | at COWBRIDGE - Town Hall (Leslie Hall) / Y BONTFFAEN - Neuadd y Dref (Y Neuadd Leiaf) |
| Wednesday 20th / Dydd Mercher 20 | at PENARTH - Page's Rooms / PENARTH - Ystafelloedd Page's |
| Thursday 21st / Dydd Iau 21 | at LLANTWIT MAJOR - Llantonion Hall / LLANILLTUD FAWR - Neuadd Llantonion |
| Monday 25th / Dydd Llun 25 | at ST ATHAN - Gathering Place / SAINT TATHAN - Y Man Yngynnuil |

Representations (including objections) in respect of the Deposit LDP can be made to:

- ONLINE** - By completing the electronic form at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/lp
- BY EMAIL** - In writing (preferably using the Representation Form) to ldp@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk
- BY POST** - In writing (preferably using the Representation Form) and sending to:
The LDP Team, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry Docks, Barry, CF63 4RT

REPRESENTATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN 5PM ON FRIDAY 16th DECEMBER 2013

MAEN RHAI'D I'R HOLL SYLWADAU EIN CYRRAEDD ERBYN 5PM AR DDYDD GWENER 20 RHAGFYR 2013

For more information, please visit the website at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/lp contact the LDP team on 01446 700111 or e-mail LDP@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.
Am ragor o wybodaeth, fflinwch diw y Cynllun Datblygu Lleol ar 01446 700111 neu arfonwch neges i LDP@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

YMGYNGHORIAD CYHOEDDUS

Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg wedi paratol dogfennau Cynllun Datblygu Lleol ar gyfer y Cynllun uchod. Bydd y Cynllun Datblygu, ar ôl ei fabwysiadu, yn disodli'r cynllun datblygu presennol, a bydd yn sail i benderfyniadau ynglŷn â chynllunio ar gyfer defnyddio tir ym **Bro Morgannwg**.

Mae'r Cynllun Datblygu'n cynnwys nifer o bolisiâu cynllunio lleol, ac yn darparu ar gyfer defnyddio tir i ddibenion tai, cyfnewtiau, cyflog, adwerthu, hamdden, trafnidiaeth, twristiaeth, mwau, gwastraff a gofynion cymunedol. Mae hefyd yn dangos y math o newyddwch mae'n fydd ei angen er mwyn darparu ar gyfer y tai a ragweli'r ym y Fro yn ystod y cyfnod cyn 2026.

Bydd y cyfnod ymgynghori 6 wythnos yn dechrau ar ddydd Gwener 8 Tachwedd 2013 ac yn dod i ben am 5pm ar ddydd Gwener 20 Rhagfyr 2013.

Cewch ddarlun yr holl dogfennau ar wefan y cyngor drwy fynd i www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/lp. Mae copïau ciled ar gael hefyd i'r cyhoeddus darllen yn rhad ac am ddim yn y mannau canlynol yn ystod oriau agor arferol:

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Holl Lyfrjelloedd Bro Morgannwg

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Am ragor o wybodaeth, fflinwch diw y Cynllun Datblygu Lleol ar 01446 700111 neu arfonwch neges i LDP@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk



BETTER TOGETHER – New powers for Wales for growth and jobs

THERE have been many steps taken to strengthen the 'powers' of the Welsh Government over the lifetime of the Assembly, which came into being in 1999, when I was elected as the Vale Assembly Member.

As we have always said, these have been 'powers for a purpose' to help us boost growth and jobs with the ability to shape policy to meet Welsh needs and develop laws which can underpin these policies

in statute.

The Welsh Government Budget doubled in the first decade but is now being cut back by the UK Government, requiring tougher decisions about our priorities, as we seek to protect health and education, support the vulnerable and boost our economy.

We have been seeking the 'power to borrow' which is now being accorded to the Scottish Government under the Scotland Act. However, local authorities and many other public bodies also have borrowing powers to help finance the projects which are

Assembly Notes



by Vale AM
JANE HUTT
(Minister for Finance and
Leader of the House)

vital to local services – such as building schools and improving our local road networks and envi-

ronment.

Clearly, we need to use this power prudently to borrow money to invest in Wales, in projects like the enhancement of the M4 to tackle the improvements so clearly needed, to boost this key transport network for Wales as part of the UK economy.

This is strongly backed by the business community, led by CBI Wales. We are already assisting local authorities using their borrowing powers for Wales-wide highway improvements and we are developing 'non dividend' financing models to redevelop other capital projects such as Velindre

Hospital. Last Friday, I welcomed the news that the UK Government would devolve borrowing powers and smaller taxes such as Stamp Duty Land Tax to Wales, in response to a cross Party Commission led by Paul Silk.

I paid tribute to all the Parties in the Assembly for backing these reforms and for pressing the case for the implementation of these reforms, which we have been united on, since we asked the Welsh Economist, Gerry Holtham, to undertake an independent inquiry into our fiscal powers in 2008.

The First Minister,

Carwyn Jones AM, made a Statement to the Assembly on Tuesday this week to welcome this step forward for Wales. Following his meeting with the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister last week, he said the UK Government's reforms would 'enable the Welsh Government to borrow to fund infrastructure investment.'

I was also glad to have confirmation that the UK Government will legislate to implement these changes as soon as parliamentary time in Westminster allows, with the publication of a draft Wales Bill in the next few months.

I have been negotiating with the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Danny Alexander MP, over the last three years to secure this historic agreement, which he publicly backed when he came to Wales earlier this year.

We have agreed that this next step in extending our powers can show how Governments can work together to progress devolution in a strong United Kingdom.

It has been pleasing to see how we can work together with the strong voice of Business and Civic Society backing us, showing that we are 'Better Together' in seeking the common good.

LUCKY WINNER'S HAMPER PRIZE



Mr and Mrs Rob Evans receiving their hamper from Nigel Hunt.

THE Vale of Glamorgan Farmers' Market ran a free hamper prize draw at the Cowbridge Food and Drink festival, and the lucky winner was Rob Evans from Ystradowen.

The hamper was presented by market vice-chairman Nigel Hunt, of Quality Welsh Plants, at the Farmers' Market on Saturday, November 2.

The next market will be at Arthur John's car park on Saturday, November 16.

ME

Housing advice service receives praise for progress

THE Vale Council's housing advice service won high praise for the improvements it has made in the last 12 months, and also its successful partnership working during its first members' briefing session.

The event was held to brief local members on what the Housing Advice Service and its key partners have achieved in the last year.

Independent housing

consultant Andy Gale said: "If there was an award for the most improved service in Wales, the Vale of Glamorgan would undoubtedly receive this."

"The Vale has the potential to be one of the best housing advice services in Wales".

Mark Lawrence from Shelter Cymru also gave a talk to the members at which he discussed the excellent working relationship forged between the council and Shelter Cymru.

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CROWN COURT ROUND-UP by AJ SICLUNA

Pencoeed man is jailed for smuggling

A FORMER bankrupt who committed offences involving smuggled cigarettes and fake watches has been jailed for eight months at Cardiff Crown Court.

It was necessary, said Judge David Wynn Morgan, to impose condign punishments, "Not least because you have offended in this way in the past."

Ian Freeman (50) of Heol Maes-y-Haf, Pencoeed, admitted charges of dealing with goods with fraudulent intent and making unauthorised use of a trademark.

Prosecutor Carys Owen said that on January 8, officers of the Revenue and Customs saw two men in the North Road area of Bridgend, one of whom was Freeman.

They searched a van and found 25 boxes of cigarettes. Thirteen boxes contained cigarettes totalling £31,800 on which duty of £25,006 had not been paid.

Trading Standards officers were called in and discovered 235 fake watches with a fraudulent trademark of 'ICE'. All were seized by Trading Standards officers.

When arrested, Freeman exercised his right to remain silent, but he later

said he had been offered £200 for a unit he occupied to store the goods.

Said Miss Owen: "All this was professionally planned."

Freeman said he could not say how the cigarettes and watches came into his possession.

He was said to have a previous conviction for evading tobacco duty.

His barrister, Peter Woodall, said: "This is, of course, a serious case. Sadly, he is physically frail with diabetes and alcohol issues."

"His remorse is heart-felt, and he has brought shame to his family. It was not a sophisticated operation and he was acting as a warehouseman and gave way to temptation at a time of dire financial straits."

He said Freeman had been approached by another person whose identity he would not reveal because there would be "repercussions".

The judge said Freeman had been taken advantage of because of difficult circumstances and he had taken a course of action to shield others.

The offences, he added, had been compounded by his reluctance to reveal who the others were.

He was ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £100.

Rugby player's last chance

A Porthcawl RFC player who when drunk attacked a member of the club's committee, has walked free from Cardiff Crown Court.

Daniel Shore, a 30-year-old labourer, was told by Recorder Ian Murphy QC: "Your qualities have saved you."

Shore, of Ewenny Close, Porthcawl, had admitted causing David Long actual bodily harm. He was jailed for six months, the sentence suspended for two years, and made subject to a two-year supervision order.

He was also directed to carry out 150 hours unpaid work and to pay a victim surcharge of £80.

Said the Recorder: "It

you let alcohol get the better of you again, there will be consequences."

Prosecutor Ian Kolvin said that on August 31, there was a social event at the rugby club. Shore was a regular member and was well-known and liked.

He became intoxicated and when asked to leave, he refused. Without any provocation, he head-butted Mr Long to the jaw area and punched another man.

He was held in a bear hug and taken to the exit, but he was again unwilling to leave and threw a punch to Mr Long's face which knocked him to the floor unconscious.

After being arrested, he could not explain why the incident occurred.

Mr Long, the court heard, had not wished to

pursue the case against Shore.

Shore was said to have convictions for causing actual bodily harm, one of which involved attacking a man he believed had stolen his bicycle.

His counsel, Owen Williams, said: "He realises he is at risk of losing his liberty. Every time he commits an offence, it is because he has lost his temper."

"These failings need to be addressed. He is truly remorseful because at the time, he was getting his life in order."

Mr Williams said he had drunk far too much alcohol following an away game in Neath.

Shore, he said, was welcome to return to the club to play and coach and he deserved a last chance.

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NFU members meet Police Commissioner

A DELEGATION from Glamorgan NFU Cymru county branch recently met Alun Michael, the Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales, and highlighted the impact crimes such as fly grazing, fly tipping and theft

have on rural communities.

The delegation stressed the need for all parties to work in partnership in order to prevent fly grazing in the area.

Andrew Edwards, NFU Cymru Glamorgan County Chairman said: "NFU Cymru has welcomed the legislation which has been drafted to tackle fly grazing and the

abandonment of horses and ponies in Wales, which has been laid before the National Assembly for Wales by the Welsh Government."

NFU Cymru has successfully worked in partnership with Welsh Government, local authorities, police forces and the RSPCA to try and develop legislation to tackle fly grazing that will empower local authorities to take action against the small minority of horse owners who choose to act irresponsibly.

Mr Edwards continued: "Unfortunately, some farmers in Glamorgan have been victims of fly grazing and it is absolutely vital now that there is a uniform approach and commitment from all local authorities and police throughout the county of Glamorgan, and the rest of Wales, to tackle this problem."

Mr Edwards concluded: "This was a useful opportunity to meet and discuss our concerns directly with Mr Michael. During the meeting, we also stressed the importance of local police officers keeping the rural community up to date with thefts and incidents, and we hope to see an improvement in the level of communication between local officers and farmers in the future."

Top award for MIND volunteer



Award winner Gillian Morgan is honoured by the Vale of Glamorgan Mayor and the Vale AM, for her skills and service to Mind in the Vale.

CARDIFF and Vale College recently awarded Gillian Morgan the 'Community Learner of the Year' award at a ceremony on the stage of the Wales Millennium Centre.

The Vale of Glamorgan Mayor, Cou Margaret Wilkinson and Vale AM Jane Hutt visited Gillian Morgan in the MIND in the Vale Travellers Café in Barry Station, where she has been a volunteer for five years, to congratulate her on the award.

Gillian gained her QCF Hospitality Level 1 Award for her services at the Mind in the Vale Cafe, which also runs a successful catering service.

Ty Hafan rollover reaches £10,500

TY HAFAN'S Crackerjackpot Lottery has reached a massive £10,500 for the second time this year because the rollover prize has not been won for the past 21 weeks.

It could reach a maximum of £12,000 where it will become a guaranteed prize.

By becoming a member of Crackerjackpot for £1 a week, supporters have the chance to win big prizes which could fund a dream holiday, a new car and or maybe some improvements.

John Mladenovic, Ty Hafan's Lottery general manager, said: "Winning £10,500 could make a real difference to someone's life and we hope it

will attract more local people to support us by playing the lottery.

"As well as being in with a chance of winning big cash prizes, every member of Crackerjackpot makes a real difference to hundreds of life-limited children, young people and their families from across Wales supported by Ty Hafan. Crackerjackpot provides a vital source of reliable income for Ty Hafan, raising around a third of the total amount needed every year."

Back in 1998, the hospice began its own lottery and since that time it has paid out more than £1.5 million to lucky winners from all over Wales who have chosen to support Ty Hafan in this way.

DON'T FALL FOR BOGUS 'GREEN DEAL ASSESSORS'

South Wales residents are being urged to be on their guard with cold callers who claim to be 'Green Deal assessors'.

It follows reports from across Wales of people being 'ripped off' on their doorsteps by bogus Green Deal assessors.

In some cases, homeowners have paid as much as £200 to cold callers who have taken their money and disappeared.

Ken Yorston of Trading Standards said: "Some companies have clearly seen the Green Deal as an opportunity to conduct their shady practices in a government approved arena and Trading Standards will be taking action against any such business found to be misleading consumers or not complying fully with their statutory obligations."

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DARREN FARM: Please be careful what you wish for!

With reference to the letter from E Francis in last week's GEM, which claims the greatest thing to come to Cowbridge would be the building of 390 houses over farmland, I would say: be careful what you wish for!

Unlike E Francis I was not born in Cowbridge and maybe see things from a different point of view.

I have lived and worked in various parts of the UK and have seen farmland disappear to development, towns lose their identity, and high streets die.

I feel very lucky to have ended up living for the past 20 years in Cowbridge. I believe the town's high street is very special and as such attracts a lot of custom from tourists and day trippers.

I would suggest this has helped the high street survive through hard times and in many ways the town centre has improved over the last 20 years.

Cowbridge is a beautiful town, unique and very special, which makes it a popular tourist attraction and a great place to visit.

I totally agree that we must progress and not stand still, but careful consideration should be given to the

future of the town.

If all the dwellings listed for Cowbridge in the LDP are to be built - 561 in total - there will be a substantial increase of housing in Cowbridge, approximately 30 per cent.

In my book that is a massive increase. I'm not too sure how that will affect the town, but one possibility is that if 390 houses are built at Darren Farm, how many cars will that be? Darren Farm is that little bit too far away for some people to walk to town (or for that matter the school) so I guess the car parks in town will become a bit more congested.

This may put off the type of customers and tourists that keep many of the Cowbridge shops in business.

In a nutshell, because a town has a higher population, it does not always keep the high street alive and vibrant as can be seen by visiting many other high streets across the UK.

I agree the town would benefit from new, young life, but I just hope we get the balance right and feel a 30 per cent increase in housing could be a bit too much.

Also with such a large increase in housing a lot more people will be born in Cowbridge and in years

to come may feel it is their right to have access to affordable housing in the town in which they were born. What happens then? Maybe we could build on some more farmland or what about the sports fields? And so it could go on and on.

I agree there should be a percentage of affordable housing available to keep the community balanced. I feel lucky that my two children and three grandchildren have had access to some very affordable housing near Cowbridge.

This means as a family we can stay close together - an option not always available to some families in other parts of the UK.

So before we celebrate destroying farmland and the livelihood of a local farming family, for the building of 390 houses over Darren Farm and another 171 across the rest of Cowbridge, let's have careful consideration to all the consequences.

We can preserve all that is good for our town and have a good balanced community for many generations to come.

Howard Wright, Cowbridge

'Great Gatsby' in Dinas Powys!



THE next showing at the Murchfield Hall Community Cinema is the 2013 film adaptation of **The Great Gatsby**.

The film starts in 1929 when Nick Carraway is asked to write about what turned him into an alcoholic and the circumstances leading to his depression.

Nick tells of his experiences with the flamboyant millionaire Jay Gatsby and the lavish lifestyle and opulent parties that ultimately led to madness and tragedy.

Bring your own champagne, wine or cocktails, and join us for this magnificent film experience.

A free glass of peach bellini for everyone from our champagne fountain and delicious mocktails from the bar on Saturday, November 9 at the Murchfield Community Centre, Dinas Powys.

Tickets are £4 in advance and £5 on the door available from both Post Offices in the village and DPVC office at the Community Centre. Doors open 7pm.

JA

'Heroes' team heads for its £20,000 target



ABOVE: The team in Brize Norton just before the beginning of the ride to the Vale.

THE GEM recently told the story of four

RAF Servicemen who were part of a Help for Heroes charity ride from Oxfordshire to the Vale of Glamorgan.

They have other events planned and their aim is to raise £20,000.

For Barry Serviceman Joe McCann, a team member, returning to south Wales was particularly emotional.

He managed to take his colleagues to the Arms Park and show them a photograph of his late father who played rugby for Cardiff RFC.

Joe has been in touch with The GEM to say: "I'd just like to say thank you on behalf of the Help for Heroes riding team for the support you have given us over the past month or so."

"It's been hugely appreciated. We're at £9,000 now and closing in on the £20,000 target."

"I'll keep GEM readers informed of how we're getting on with fundraising over the next few weeks."

To make donations, go to: virginmoneygiving.com/joemccann

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

HOLY Trinity Presbyterian Church, Barry is holding a Christmas Fayre on November 16 at 10.30am.

Stalls include cake, jewellery, bric-a-brac etc and a raffle. Admission is £1 to include tea/coffee. Entrance at the junction of Abersystwyth Crescent/Trinity Street.



Joe (second right) pointing out his father on a photo at Cardiff RFC.

St Canna's, Llangan
GO along to St Canna's, Llangan, on Saturday morning, November 9, between 10am and 12pm, when you will be able to buy logs for £4 per green bag full, a nice warming cup of coffee is included in the £4! (Take your own green bags).

The churchyard has been cleared of saplings which has made the rear area of St Canna's so much more attractive with the lovely view towards St Mary Hill.

COMMUNITY NEWS
TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL
Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 860303

with the lovely view towards St Mary Hill.

A young offender
THIS week, I am diverting from the peace of our local villages.

Through my many visits to the Princess of Wales Hospital, I have seen a few very tough-looking prisoners, always escorted by equally tough officers.

On a recent visit, I saw a young man who I would put in the age group of 20 years of age, again with handcuffs, which seemed far too heavy for the prisoner's wrist.

I wondered what crime he had committed. I hope when he has served his sentence he will become a law-abiding member of society.

Did you know you can read your GEM online?
cowbridge-today.co.uk

Memorial evening helps Marie Curie charity



LEFT: Mrs Barbara Perkins.

RECENTLY, an evening's entertainment in memory of Mrs Barbara Perkins was held at Cottrell Park Golf Club.

The evening included an auction, which was very well supported by guests, friends and family members alike. All of the items were snapped up. The rest of the evening was enjoyed by all on the dance floor.

A total of £7,530 was raised and the family of Mrs Perkins would like to say a big thank you to the kind people who donated the auction pieces and to those who bid for them.

Also, thank you to the friends and family members who helped run the event and to Anthony who organised it.

The funds raised were donated to the Marie Curie Hospice.

GARETH PERKINS

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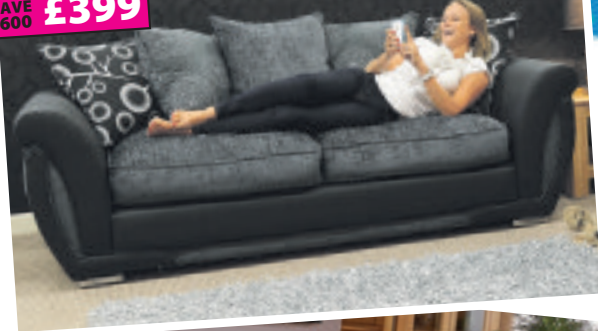
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Regional AM joins Welsh Guards' walk



Andrew RT Davies AM and Jane Hutt AM before the event with day sponsors Arqiva and other walkers.

REGIONAL AM, Andrew RT Davies, has taken part in a relay around the Welsh coast to raise money for service veterans.

He walked from Southerndown to Nash Point, alongside veterans and supporters of the Welsh Guards.

He said: "I was extremely proud to have taken part in such a

fitting tribute to the Welsh Guards and to have helped to raise money for service veterans.

"To have the opportunity to join the team for a leg of the journey was a wonderful experience and I thoroughly enjoyed talking to some of the amazingly fit and dedicated people who managed to do the entire journey and hear some of their stories!

"The Welsh Guards are an

inspiration to us all and this was a great way to get the whole country involved and show our appreciation for veterans.

"Obviously I know the Vale coast extremely well as a local resident and farmer but this was a challenging walk for all involved given the wet and windy conditions!"

Beguiling Beagles hunting for Beagle-friendly homes!

DOGS Trust Bridgend is appealing to local dog lovers to help find loving homes for three beguiling Beagles.

The trio - Ralphie, Tonka and Bindy - are hunting for energetic owners who will enjoy training these clever dogs and give them the time they need to help them settle in.

The charity has found that Beagles are one of the most sought-after breeds - the number of enquiries has increased tenfold at the Bridgend rehoming centre in the past year.

Beagles may become the latest 'must-have' because of their appealing looks and new owners are often unprepared and ill-equipped to cope with the specific requirements of this energetic and sometimes mischievous breed.

"Many end up in rescue centres, although with the right training, these intelligent dogs can make loving and entertaining pets," says Beverly Price, Dogs Trust Bridgend, Rehoming Centre manager.

"Beagles are super cute little dogs which make very appealing pets. However, people need to remember that they are hounds, they love being outside chasing scents and are highly intelligent and very energetic dogs and need regular exercise. They need the correct socialization and proper training.

"They can be escape artists due to their very keen sense of smell and can pick up the faintest trace of the scent of food and pursue it. However, their love of food helps with training and in the right homes with owners who have time to dedi-

The GEM is in partnership with the Dog's Trust to find caring homes for animals in their charge at Bridgend Rehoming Centre (Telephone: 01656 725219)



Tonka, Ralphie and Bindy.

cate to their training and keeping them entertained they can make fantastic pets.

"Over the last few months alone, we have taken in 10 Beagles. Some have been handed in because their owners did not appreciate the demands of such energetic dogs. We have also seen a large increase in the number of Beagles attending our training classes.

"Beagles are really fun, affectionate dogs which make such rewarding pets in homes

where owners understand their breed, give them plenty of exercise and allow them to be Beagles."

If you can give a Beagle suitable home please call Dogs Trust Bridgend on 01656 725 219 or visit www.dogstrust.org.uk.

Tonka

TONKA is a one year old Beagle who loves to be part of the action. An energetic pup, he is always outdoors exploring and enjoys munching on his favourite meaty treats. This busy boy

could happily live with other dogs.

Bindy

BINDY the Beagle is eight years old and is good with children and happy in the company of other dogs, this bright girl would make a loving companion for an energetic family.

Ralphie

RALPHIE is a one year old Beagle who is always active so would need lots of exercise and stimulation to keep him busy. A sociable pup, he has lots of doggy friends.

Samantha was in the frame for top apprentice

A YOUNG female plumber from Bridgend was a finalist in a competition to name Wales' best building services engineering apprentice.

Samantha Allen (26) who works for Bridgend-based Andrew Allen Gas and Plumbing Ltd, was a finalist in the JTL Welsh Apprentice of the Year Awards, which recognise excellence in building services engineering apprentices. She was nominated for the award for her achievements during her appren-



Samantha Allen.

ticeship, which finished in May of this year.

Samantha said: "This is a great way of ending my final year as an apprentice, and I hope

other girls will see this as proof of what can be achieved by taking up this sort of apprenticeship."

JTL Chairman Dr Ian Livsey said: "Samantha is a great example of the talent being developed in Wales, and I have no doubt she has an excellent career ahead of her. She has always had great feedback from her tutors and training officers, and is playing a key part in our Apprentice Ambassador Initiative - helping us to encourage young women into careers in building services engineering."

Llanilltud Primary School celebrates Diwali



PUPILS at Llanilltud Fawr primary school recently celebrated Diwali, the Hindu festival of light. As you can see from the pictures here, a wonderful time was had by all, especially the Indian dancing with Mrs Booker!



Two local women are jailed for street attack

TWO women who robbed a drinker shortly after she left a pub in Bridgend have each been jailed for three years at Cardiff Crown Court.

Judith Harle suffered injuries which included

a broken thumb, bruising and grazes.

Sara Baldwin (33) of Maes-yr-Heol, Brynmyn, and Kirsty Hodgson (23) of Bryn Morfa, Bridgend, each admitted a charge of robbery.

Judge Eleri Rees told the pair: "Nothing excuses what happened that night."

by AJ SICLUNA

The victim, she said, must have suffered a "truly frightening experience".

Prosecutor John Probert said that on the night of May 5, Ms Harle and the two defendants were drinking in the Star pub in Bridgend.

Ms Harle had had a relationship in the past with Baldwin's ex-partner and Baldwin called Ms Harle a "slag and a slut".

About midnight, Ms Harle left the pub to walk home, feeling uncomfortable at the situation.

The two defendants rushed after her, leaving their drinks behind.

In Mackworth Street, said Mr Probert, they ran towards her and Hodgson pulled her hair and punched her. She was dragged to the ground and her handbag was taken from her.

She was kicked and curled up into a ball.

Hodgson told her:

"You got what you deserved, you bitch."

Judith Harle returned to the town centre and reported the matter to the police.

In addition to the bruising and grazing and broken thumb, she also had swellings and bit the end of her tongue.

The pair were arrested in the early hours of the morning in the same pub.

Baldwin said: "I haven't robbed any b***, you'll never prove it."

The bag was found in undergrowth near Hodgson's home address and £33 in cash had been taken.

Baldwin claimed that earlier the victim had given her "stinking looks". Hodgson also denied being involved.

Mr Probert said: "Clearly, Ms Harle was targeted."

In a victim impact statement, she said she suffered a lot of pain, was not sleeping, suffered stress, and had to be off work.

She also said she felt "really angry" and wanted

ed the pair to pay for what they had done to her.

Baldwin had convictions for public order offences and assault, and Hodgson had convictions for a public order offence, causing damage and battery.

Adam Sharpe for Baldwin said: "The offence was entirely out of character. She had been in custody since October 4 but has reflected on her behaviour."

"It was an assault which spiralled out of control."

"In the past she had suffered depression, has been sectioned and self-harmed. She has had a troubled life and there is remorse."

He said that in August, she was attacked and suffered fractures to her jaw.

Stephen Thomas for Hodgson said: "She fully admits her part in a joint offence. When they left the pub, they did not intend to commit a robbery and it all occurred on the spur of the moment."

"It must be acknowledged there was kicking and significant force. The robbery was inexcusable."

The judge said there was clearly hostility towards the victim.

Each defendant was ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £120.

AM's surgery

DAVID MELDING, Conservative AM for the South Wales Central region, will be holding an advice surgery on Friday, November 15 at 29 High Street, Barry, between 10am and 12pm. No appointment is necessary.

PENDOYLAN'S ENTREPRENEURS

PUPILS in Pendoylan Church in Wales Primary School recently held their first 'Enterprise Week'.

The children were tasked with designing and producing products to sell at a school Farmer's Market.

To begin with, the pupils conducted some market research to find out what their parents and friends would want to buy, and how much they'd be willing to spend.

To help the pupils get started, the school invited a local businessman, Mr Howells, to give a presentation on how to launch a new product.

The children used his excellent advice to help them choose suitable products to make and sell. The budding CEOs even calculated their expected profits and designed their own packaging!

On trading day, with the year-6 pupils manning the stalls, business was brisk and the products sold quickly. By the end of the morning the



Young entrepreneurs at work.

pupils had made over £600 profit; Sir Alan Sugar would have been proud!

DJ

AM congratulates young volunteers



VALE AM, Jane Hutt, attended the Vale Volunteer Bureau's AGM last week at Barry Memorial Hall, to congratulate the bureau and present awards to young volunteers.

She said: "I was delighted to attend the Vale Volunteer Bureau's AGM and to present young volunteers with their Millennium

Volunteering Certificates - what a wonderful contribution they have made!"

Left to right - Peter Chapman, treasurer; Alison Steere, director; Jane Hutt AM and Jim Fitzgibbon, chair.

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Museum remembers our troops

OUR Armed Forces serving in hot spots around the world is the theme of the latest exhibit at the Barry Island-based Glamorgan Wartime Heritage Centre.

Featuring a 'soldier' dressed in desert uniform worn in action in Afghanistan, the display aims to remind visitors of the dangers faced by our troops 'over there'.

Barry at War spokesman Ade Pitman said: "Our display aims to remind visitors that our troops are currently serving our country on peace keeping duties around the world."

"As an ex-serviceman myself, I believe that it is important to remember the sacrifices being made by our Armed Forces, not just at this time of year when we buy a poppy, but every day."

"The title of our exhibit reflects the changing location of 'over there': be this Iraq during the Gulf Wars or now Afghanistan. For my mother, 'over there' was Egypt during the Suez crisis of the 1950s, so who knows where 'over there' will be 10 years from now?"

"Using funds raised at the Wartime Weekend community event last summer, we have been able to buy a suitable mannequin and build a generic desert dwelling

that could be equally at home in Iraq, Afghanistan or Syria. The uniform was donated by the son of one of our volunteers, who wore it on one of his tours of duty in Afghanistan."

"We would very much like readers to help us improve the impact of our display, by donating photographs of their loved ones 'over there'."

"We don't need the originals, as these can either be emailed to us or we can scan the originals. For security reasons photographs should simply have the name of the serving member and a goodwill message to them on it."

"Our tiny museum seeks to show the personal side of warfare, and how it touches the lives of the people at home. Photos can be emailed to us at our email enquiries@barry-atwar.info or dropped off at the museum."

The Glamorgan Wartime Heritage Centre is located at the Barry Tourist Railway Station, Barry Island, and is open every Wednesday afternoon, 2pm until 4pm. The museum will also be open on Sunday, November 24, when it celebrates its first anniversary.

For more details call Ade Pitman on 07930 874161 or see the website www.wartimeglam.org.uk.

Royal Albert Hall duties for local MGSs

MEMBERS of the Ministry of Defence Guard Service (MGS), based at MoD St Athan, will be taking part in the annual Service of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall this coming Saturday, November 9.

The two representatives from St Athan are Civilian Security Officers, Mrs Jean White from Barry and Mr Kenneth Kirkham from Pencoed.

They were invited to take part in the National Act of Remembrance and be the first MGS

personnel to walk down the steps of the Royal Albert Hall.

MoD St Athan Commanding Officer, Wing Commander Rob Balls said: "I know that both Mrs White and Mr Kirkham were overwhelmed to be selected as the first MGS personnel to attend the Royal Albert Hall. They will be joining the nation as we remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country."

Service and civilian personnel from MoD St Athan will join local communities across south Wales this Sunday as they take part in services to remember the fallen.

Out and About with The GEM

Marvel's latest big blockbuster lacking in story and villainy

MANY hundreds of millions of dollars later, it seems hard to believe that the release of *Thor* in 2011 was considered a gamble, given his lack of high-profile.

Fast-forward to 2013 and his second outing, following a successful appearance in *Avengers Assemble*, is one that comes with much anticipation.

In *Thor: The Dark World*, the lead character (Chris Hemsworth) returns to Asgard only to find it war-torn, threatened by an evil so great that Thor cannot battle it alone.

In order to battle the dark elves and their

leader Malekith (Christopher Eccleston), Thor must turn to his less-than-trustworthy brother Loki (Tom Hiddleston), a decision that could mean dangerous times for our hero...

While Marvel Studios have shown a knack for making money and delivering thrills, the one thing they are reasonably untested in is sequels.

While their characters' first outings have been wildly successful, the only character to have reached sequel status is *Iron Man*, and the second episode of that, albeit undemandingly entertaining, was let down by a dull storyline and an unengaging villain.

A similar charge can be levelled at *Thor: The Dark World* which simi-

larly makes for an entertaining and enjoyable viewing experience, but one soured by a story that doesn't pull you in and a villain who is bland and reasonably unthreatening.

What made the first film so entertaining was the ability to marry the dramatic with a sense of humour, the 'fish-out-of-water' concept allied to an almost Shakespearean family drama.

What the sequel does is dial down the former (although there are some laughs to be had) and instead focus on Thor battling a race of people intent on making him and Asgard pay for the sins of his grandfather.

It is a mix that doesn't quite work, mainly due to the fact that the main driving force of the story, a mystical 'aether' that grants those in charge of it immense power, is a flimsy hook on which to hang a story.

Similarly, Christopher Eccleston's Malekith is a villain with a grudge but lacking in character and personality. With the actor hiding behind prosthetics, there are little or no facial actions to convey the character's motivations; instead we merely have threats which have been recycled from any number of past villains which don't work half as well as a little more substance would have done.

While these are points to be critical

about, there are also things to savour about the film. Chris Hemsworth is becoming a more accomplished and assured actor with every performance, and while this film won't overly stretch him, he still conveys the weight of a man born to lead but who would rather fight.

Tom Hiddleston is again the film's ace in the hole, giving Loki the snide, devious and calculating aura that works so well, while Natalie Portman finds herself underused and Anthony Hopkins delivers a performance that feels even so slightly phoned in.

Game of Thrones director Alan Taylor brings a sheen of realism to the world of Asgard, his more grounded direction perfectly suitable for a film that follows the traditional sequel path of going a bit darker, while the set-pieces, though heavy on CGI, have a scope and ambition that, coupled with a dollop of derring-do, give a thrilling air to proceedings.

While something of a wasted opportunity, *Thor: The Dark World* still delivers enough to satisfy; it's just a shame that it's saddled with a weak story and poor villain. However, the Marvel is enough to carry it through.

VERDICT: Another case of sequel-itis from Marvel factor, *Thor: The Dark World* is a notch below their top



by **GARETH JAMIESON**
Follow Screen Talk on Twitter - @GEMScreenTalk

work but still makes for an entertaining viewing experience. While the film's story leaves something to be desired, and has a villain that fails to send chills down your spine, the sense of spectacle and some decent performances from Chris Hemsworth and Tom Hiddleston make it worth watching. Enjoyable.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Thor* (2011), *Star Wars* (1977).

Race night at Bonvilston
A RACE night is being held at Bonvilston Reading Room on Friday, November 15, with a sausage and mash supper at 7pm, and racing starting at 7.45pm.

Tickets are £6 which includes supper. For more information call 01446 781686.

Breaking down barriers

AS part of the *Siaradwn Ni - Let's Talk Big Lottery-funded programme, Yellow Wales in Maesteg* is holding extra a free-of-charge accredited two-day listening skills course at Yellow Wales from 9am - 3pm on November 15 and 18; January 27 and 31 2014, February 10 and 14, 24 and 28, and March 3 and 7.

The *Siaradwn Ni - Let's Talk* programme is co-ordinated by Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO) and Neath Port Talbot Council for Voluntary Service (NPTVCS) to encourage positive emotional health and wellbeing. Telephone 01656 737494.

WHAT'S ON AND WHERE IN YOUR AREA

Assembly Member holds surgery

THE Welsh Liberal Democrat Assembly Member for South Wales West, Peter Black, will be holding three advice surgeries next week.

On Friday, November 8, he will be in Pencoed Library from 2pm to 3pm. He will then be at Porthcawl Library from 3.30pm to 4.30pm and Neath Central Library between 5pm and 6pm.

No appointment is necessary.

Castle Players' Armistice show

BRIDGEND Castle Players are proud to present their Armistice Show, 'The Prisoner's Friend', a play by Peter Drake.

It is a tale about the lives and tribulations of those in the trenches of the Great War.

The evening will be held in the Bridgend United Services Club on Saturday, November 9, 8pm start.

Entry is free, with a collection to be held throughout the evening.

All proceeds (less royalties) will be divided between: 'The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal' and 'Help for Heroes'.

For further information, please visit our website: www.bridgendcastleplayers.org, or contact our secretary: secretary@bridgendcastleplayers.org.

Councillors' surgery
RESIDENTS are invited to attend an advice surgery at the County Library to discuss any council issues or concerns.

Couns Dr Ian Johnson, Steffan William, Nic Hodges and Shirley Hodges will be joined by Steve Blakeman, Marilyn Brown and the Barry Plaid Cymru team at The Community Room, The County Library, King Square, Barry, from 11am until 12 midday on Saturday, November 9.

No appointments are necessary.

Valeways walks

ON Sunday, November 10 at 10.30am, 'Garden and Fields', meeting at top car park, Southerndown.

On Tuesday, November 12 at 1.30pm, 'Woodland walk to St Lythans', starting at Wenvoe Arms car park, Wenvoe.

Musical evening

BARRY Male Voice Choir and Spectrum Singers will be singing at the Yacht Club, Barry Island on November 9 at 8pm. Tickets £5 on the door; everyone welcome.

Barry Yacht Club Christmas fayre is on November 23 at 2pm in the clubhouse. Free admission, many exciting stalls, unusual gifts, refreshments available. For further details telephone 01446 737579.

Winter art exhibition

FROM Monday, November 10 until Thursday, December 5, Cowbridge Art Society will hold its Winter Art Exhibition at Old Hall Cowbridge (usual Old Hall opening times, telephone 01446 773831 to confirm).

The exhibition will be of up to 100 original works of art done in a variety of media, most of which will be for sale for very reasonable prices.

The society meets on Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge, 7-9pm, and visitors and new members are most welcome.

For details of the society's activities see www.cowbridgeartsociety.com.

History group's next meeting

THE next meeting of the Dinas Powys Local History Society will be on Tuesday, November 12 at 7.30pm in Kynance Hall.

There will be an illustrated talk by Pat Evans - 'They didn't knit socks' - the role of women volunteers on the front line in World War I.

An admission fee of £1.50 for members and £3 for visitors will be charged. All are very welcome to attend; enquiries to Betty Williams (029 2051 3524).

A Winter's Tale

WINTER'S Tale is the title of a Christmas demonstration to be given to members of the Barry Floral Society on November 12 by Mrs Barbara Priest of Hereford, and November 26 will see members making their own Christmas decorations.

Both events will be held at the St Nicholas Hall, Nicholas Road, Barry, commencing at 2.15pm. On December 3 (10.15am-12 noon) St Nicholas Hall will be the venue for the society's Christmas exhibition/coffee morning. Each year the club holds a number of special events and at the Christmas coffee morning makes a donation to a local charity. This year the chosen charity is Llamau.

Mayor's coffee

THE Vale of Glamorgan Mayor is hosting a charity coffee morning in aid of the Salvation Army on Tuesday November 12 from 10.30am - 12 noon in the Civic Office. All are welcome.

Speakers lined up for NFU AGM

TWO influential livestock board chairmen will be addressing Glamorgan NFU Cymru members at the annual general meeting on November 13 at the Duke of Wellington, Cowbridge.

Starting at 7.30pm, Charles Sercombe, NFU livestock board chairman, will report back on his recent tour of New Zealand, looking at the sheep sector and Lyndon Edwards, NFU Cymru livestock board chairman will provide an update on issues facing the Welsh livestock industry.

There will also be nominations for NFU and NFU Cymru officeholder positions, as well as the election of county positions on commodity boards for Glamorgan.

'Ladies in Retirement'

THE Dinas Powys Players' presentation of *Ladies in Retirement* at the Parish Hall, Britway Road, Dinas Powys takes place on November 14, 15 and 16.

The three-act play will be presented at 7.30pm nightly, and tickets can be obtained by telephoning 029 20512868 or 029 21406168.

PW

'Edging the Estuary' - a written journey through the Vale

PETER Finch's *Edging the Estuary* (published by Seren at £9.99) takes the reader on a journey stopping at St Donat's, Ogmere by Sea, Newton, Porthcawl, Aberthaw Power Station, Sully Island, Barry Island, and many other places which will be familiar to Glamorgan GEM readers.

A poet, author and literary entrepreneur, Peter is well known for his alternative guide books.

Of Merthyr Mawr he writes: 'It's easy to see how this place doubled as Saudi for the making

of David Lean's *Lawrence of Arabia*'.

While we learn that Sully "took its name from the Norman Baron, Reginald de Sully, one of the 12 knights of Glamorgan, who was awarded the manor at the time of the conquest."

He takes in villages and cities, power stations and fishermen, castles and caravans, leg aching walks and deckchairs on the beach, exploring both busy tourist attractions and secret havens along the coast.

The competing pleasure beaches of Porthcawl, Barry and Weston-super-Mare are just some of the places which punctuate Peter's epic walk.

BRIAN LEE

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in last week's Ty Hafan lottery number D799:

● £2,000: 192212.
● The rollover, which now stands at £10,000, was not won this week.
● £10: 2 0 5 7 8 7.
897228, 243561, 863424, 897509, 373700, 691509, 866152, 177696, 879618, 777869, 201976, 121551, 593987, 840980, 176638, 287513, 191177, 825250, 476484.

● £5: 252926, 463370, 728020, 788521, 287439, 980081, 579600, 775535, 209842, 562703, 976671, 337508, 186821,

156239, 167734, 617893, 822170, 437460, 916789, 432550, 955068, 692195, 893805, 830262, 454044, 948040, 792613, 412452, 358774, 790587, 185617, 765264, 469985, 759219, 928995, 555713, 556850, 940916, 565539, 335239, 316389, 406324, 780076, 729007, 465323, 630656, 430367, 705651, 730460, 636869, 785695, 810192, 846883, 174295, 140625, 876383, 260945, 974616, 859813, 156726.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

Cowbridge Comprehensive School's Annual PTA CHRISTMAS MARKET

Looking for some unique Christmas Presents? Look no further - come to our annual Christmas Market. Over 60 stalls selling, unique & hand crafted gifts such as ceramics, prints, jewellery, accessories, cards & books.

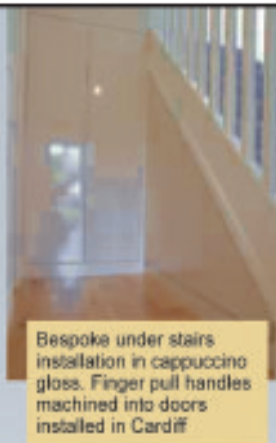
Refreshments include: mulled wine, home made mince pies, hot food & drinks.

Sunday, 17 November, 10.30am - 3.30pm
Cowbridge Comprehensive School,
Aberthin Road, Cowbridge CF71 7EN.
(If you would like a stall to sell your goods please email to: mandypterry@me.com or call 07979 148989)

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Ysgol Gyfun Porthcawl Porthcawl Comprehensive School

**Celebrating
their 80th
Anniversary**

Pupils and parents vote with their feet and head for Porthcawl!

As it celebrates its 80th anniversary, big things are happening at Porthcawl Comprehensive School. In this article, headteacher Andrew Slade reflects on the reasons that more and more pupils are choosing the school.

AS part of the run up to the school's anniversary, our Humanities Club started researching the school's 80-year history.

Looking through the old registers, we were struck by the variety of previous schools listed; pupils came from Porthcawl town and from many primary schools in the surrounding district.

This September has seen a very large intake into our year-7, with 240 pupils joining our school. What is quite remarkable is that following in the school's tradition, pupils from 25 different primary schools have decided that Porthcawl Comprehensive School is the place for their secondary education.

Over the years, the school has grown from the red brick buildings that opened in 1933, (now called P Block), to a much larger school, spread over a very large and well maintained site.

In March 1973, the Upper School was opened, and this area now comprises D and G Block. In the last 16 years, we have seen a new staff room, a theatre, a block of new classrooms for mathematics and geography, the sixth form hall – and most recently refurbished science laboratories.

This year, record numbers of students have either returned to school following their GCSE results, or joined our sixth form from other schools.

To accommodate a sixth form of almost 400, we have redeveloped the Adult Education Lounge into the 'Sixth Form Centre'.

Thanks go to Mr Parker (the site manager) and his team for all their efforts during the conversion.

The school became a comprehensive school at the beginning of the 1970s. We recognise at Porthcawl how vitally important a child's education is to succeed in an ever-changing and challenging world.

We are proud to continue to use the school's name – Porthcawl Comprehensive School – as we feel that education at our school is truly comprehensive in the best sense of the word, with something for everyone at the school, no matter what their ability, interest and aspirations.

We continue to be delighted with examination results; the summer of 2013 brought a range of excellent results.

At A-Level, the pass rate at A* to E was 98.55 per cent, while at A* to C, it was a very creditable 81.84 per cent.

At GCSE Level 1 Threshold (5 or more GCSE passes at A*–G), the school hit 96.20.

At Level 2 Threshold (5 or more GCSEs A*–C) the figure was 78.90 per cent. The Level 2 Threshold (Including English and Maths) score was 69.93.

The core subject indicator (English, Maths, Science) was 67.20 per cent, and there were no pupils leaving without qualifications.

We are looking to increase our library of memorabilia tracing the history of the school. If you are able to help, for example with old photographs, please contact the school on 01656 774100.

For more information about the school, (as it is today), please see our website www.porthcawlschool.co.uk

**KAREN PAULLADA –
Eliza Doolittle**
You might remember Karen as Fanny
Brice from last year's school
production of 'Funny Girl'. Karen is a member of the National Youth
Theatre of Wales and the National Youth Music Theatre where she
played Megan in 'Roadrunner' in the Edinburgh Festival. Karen has
appeared in numerous school productions and has taken principal roles
in all the lower school productions, and took her first principal role in
the main school show when she was 14. (She even finds time for singing
lessons with Patricia O'Neil.)



*This item is from the school's programme for the 1998
production of My Fair Lady. Karen is currently appearing
in the Sky comedy-drama series, Stella (see article below).*

The school show – a dazzling tradition at Porthcawl

**BACK in the 1980s I
was living in Cardiff,
while my parents
lived in Porthcawl,
writes PHILIP
IRWIN.**

Sometimes, over
Sunday lunch, my father
would wax lyrical about
the quality of the shows
put on by Porthcawl
Comprehensive School.

I took it all with a pinch
of salt, of course. After all,
if he had said that he had
seen Rob Brydon and
Ruth Jones on stage
together, it wouldn't have
meant anything at the
time.

Don't forget, this was
all 'pre-Glee' and years
away from the recent
explosion in interest in the
performing arts.

Roger Burnell, the
school's drama teacher at
the time, was blazing a
trail and starting a tradition
that continues to this
day.

It was back in 2001 that
I returned to Porthcawl
and saw my first school
production as The GEM's
reporter. It was *The King
and I* – and I haven't
missed one since!

Highlights? I remember
a great version of
Gypsy, when the school
was brimming with talent.
There were two girls
strong enough to play the
key role of Rose (Amy
Combes and Ria Morell)
and another two girls who
were ideal for the role of
Gypsy (Gemma Gould
and Becky John).

Leigh Coggins, who
has appeared in a recent
Les Miserables production
alongside Gareth
Gates, was in the chorus.

Among the boys in the
cast were Garnon Davies
(Hollyoaks) and regular
acting work; Michael
Conway (three years in



**ABOVE: The school
performing Fiddler on
the Roof (2012)**

**RIGHT:
Ben Westwood (with
Laura Bryce) as
Dr Jekyll in 2009.**

Jersey Boys in the West
End), Ashley Hunt who
has been getting regular
acting work ever since
leaving college, Nicky
Phillips, now a master in
musical theatre at the
Royal Welsh College of
Music and Drama, Dan
Parker, who went on to do
excellent work for the
Bridgend Youth Theatre –
and Joe Smith, now a
drama teacher at the
school!

Truth be told, reading
past programmes will
always unearth talented
performers who have
moved on to success in
theatre or TV.

Another old boy is
Matthew Gravelle (recently
the killer in
Broadchurch), and an old
girl is Karen Paullada –
now on TV in Ruth Jones' *Stella*, playing the brassy
Nadine.

In her day in
Porthcawl, she played the
lead role in *My Fair Lady*,
Funny Girl, and *Sound of
Music*.

Over the years there
have been many more fine
shows. I have seen two



excellent versions of *Les
Mis*, the most recent featuring
Joe Wiltshire-Smith, who wowed the
audience as Jean Valjean,
and he has gone on to do
great work in *Fiddler on
the Roof* and in *Jesus
Christ Superstar*.

However, the
Porthcawl shows were
never about superstars.
Every show I have seen
has depended on team
work and a whole range of
skills – on stage, in the
orchestra pit, and behind
the scenes.
School shows are ultimately
all about developing
personal confidence
and a whole raft of life
skills, and if anyone out
there doubts the truth of
that – then come along to
next year's show!



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The debt we owe our Merchant Navy...

THE First World War finally ended on November 11, 1918, after four long years of fighting.

The guns stopped on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month.

November 11 was chosen back in 1919 as the special day each year when we would all think about and remember those who had died.

To this day, almost 100 years later, at 11am on November 11 many people across Britain stay silent for two minutes to think about those who were lost.

At first, November 11 was known as Armistice Day because 'armistice' is the word used for an agreement between enemies to stop fighting.

These days it is more usually called Remembrance Day or Poppy Day.

The sacrifice of the Merchant Navy has remained a hidden chapter in our history.

Tens of thousands of merchant seamen, fishermen and crews from tankers, some involved in minesweeping duties to help keep our sea lanes open, lost their lives during both World Wars.

We owe them a great debt. Without their efforts this country would have run out of food.

We would not have supplied our army. The raw materials needed to keep the aircraft flying would not have arrived. We would have been overrun.

SS Athenia

In 1999, after years of lobbying, the Merchant Navy was finally allowed to take part at the National Remembrance Ceremony at the Cenotaph in Whitehall, some 60 years after the first Merchant vessel the *Athenia* was lost in World War Two.

The *SS Athenia*, of the Donaldson Line was torpedoed by the enemy submarine U30 within hours of war being declared, killing 93 passengers and 19 of the crew (mainly men trapped deep down in the engine rooms).

The Merchant Navy personnel were considered civilians and not "under command".

For the first time, in the year 2000, Merchant Navy Veterans marched behind the Royal Navy in Column E and the Merchant Navy wreath was proudly laid at the Cenotaph.

The wreath, with its unique MN design, joined the 'Red Duster' which had been displayed at the Cenotaph since the memorial was dedicated.

So when remembering our Armed Forces, just for a moment also remember the unarmed forces and the many from Barry and the Vale who played such a vital part in both wars. After years of being overlooked, Merchant Navy personnel during the Year of the Convoy (2013) are also being granted further recognition for their great sacrifices in the course of duty.

October-related World War Two ships and local men lost :

The tanker *British General* was en route from the Tyne for Abadan when she was torpedoed by U-37 and sunk on October 6, 1940.

The crew of 47 was reported missing, including local man Henry Mason.

On October 10, 1940 the *SS Graigwen* a cargo steamer on route from Montreal for Barry was torpedoed by German submarine U-123 and sunk.

Seven of her crew including Ronald J Ponsford were lost from a total of 34.

On October 18, 1940 the *SS Fiscus* in convoy SC-7, was torpedoed and was sunk East of Rockall by U-99.

The master, 36 crew members including locals William Bradford, Clifford Roy Hopkins and Gethyn W Richards, and one gunner, were lost.

Two days later the cargo steamer *SS Whitford Point* on route from Baltimore to London in Convoy HX-79 was torpedoed by German submarine U-47 and sunk 90 miles SW of Rockall. Local men Ali Kassim, John H Conibear, Thomas Hillberg and John Edward Young were among the 37 crew lost from a total crew of 39.

On October 21, 1941, the cargo steam-

er *Teverybyn* when en route from Pwll to Cardiff, was torpedoed and sunk by German submarine U-82.

The vessel was in Convoy SL-89. A crew of 48 was presumed lost including local men Henry Edwards and Edward Paul Lewis.

Also, on October 21, the armed British cargo *MV King Malcolm* was last reported, and never heard of again.

She had a crew of 34 and four gunners.

It has been recorded that the *King Malcolm* was hit by torpedo and sank in 30 seconds.

Apparently this ship went down before it could radio an alarm.

Local men lost were George D Ashton, George Henry Cliff, Patrick Cullen, Gordon Illtyd Down, Matis Jacobson, Albert E V Manning, Ernest A Petersen, Juan Rufo and Jan Snyder.

The *Rose Schiaffino* was torpedoed by the U-Boat 374 on October 31, 1941.

The master, 36 crew members including locals Ahmed Mohamed, Thomas Baston, Klaas De Wit, Daniel Cadogan, Karl Eugen Eriksen, John Foley, William Henry James, Ahmed Jheai, Terence Lewis, Nagi Mohamed, Joseph Norton, Jose Ocampos, Jose Pires, Maelgwyn Richardson, Arthur Robertson, Mocabil Salem, Charles Burman Stiff, Emanuel Teuma and four gunners were lost.

The *SS Pennington Court*, a straggler from a convoy, was torpedoed by U-254 and sank south-east of Cape Farewell on October 9, 1942 with the loss of all on board including local man William E Pratt.

The unescorted *SS Agapenor* was hit by two torpedoes from U-87 about 180 miles south of Freetown on October 11, 1942, and sank after being hit aft by another torpedo.

Seven crew members were lost including local man Ivor Victor King.

On October 12, 1942, U-706 fired a torpedo at the *SS Stormest* west of Ireland and observed a hit under the aft mast.

The ship was a straggler from convoy

ONS-136 due to heavy weather.

The master, 37 crew members including local men Anton Andersen, James T Edwards, Edward Fellows, Sidney Flynn, Clifford K R Gurd, Barrie Higgins, Frederick B John, Thomas Owen Lamb, William G Poulsen, Idris G Pritchard, William H Robinson, William Arthur Weeks, Charles G Williams, and ten gunners, were lost.

The Norwegian steamer *Lysland* and the British steamer *George Balfour* were torpedoed.

The burning *Lysland* was towed into the Humber. *George Balfour* broke into parts during the towing and ran aground.

Local men lost during the *SS George Balfour* action were James Gronhaug and Harry Mawson.

On October 29, 1942, the *SS Bullmouth* was torpedoed and damaged by U-409 about 100 miles NW of Madeira and became a straggler.

She was later struck by a further two torpedoes from U-659 and sank.

The master, 44 crew members includ-

ing local men John T Howells and Arthur G Hutton and five unknown DEMS gunners were lost.

On the same day the *SS Barrwhin* in convoy HX-212 was hit by one torpedo from U-436 and sank quickly south of Iceland.

Local men lost were Bosun Peter Antman and Chief Steward Martin Benedict Preiera, husband of Rose Gertrude Preiera of Cadoxton.

On October 4, 1943 the British steamship *Fort Fitzgerald*, was bombed by German Do-217 aircraft and sank NW of Cape Tenes.

The sinking saw the loss of local man Ahmed Nagi, aged 42.

*"They shall grow not old,
As we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them,
Nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun
And in the morning,
We will remember them."*

JT Greenway

FORMER CHIEF FIRE OFFICER BERT REACHES 100

BERT PREECE, who for many years was the chief fire officer for Barry, Penarth, Cowbridge and Llantwit Major, is celebrating his 100th birthday on November 10.

He joined the old Auxiliary Fire Service in 1938 and on the outbreak of war was called up to Barry fire station, being seconded to Swansea during the wartime blitz.

Having risen through the ranks during the war, he became station officer for Barry and the Vale on its cessation. He

served Barry and the Vale for many years before being promoted to divisional officer based in Bridgend, a position he held until his retirement in 1972.

He was married to his beloved Rene for 73 years until her death last year at the age of 97.

He is still active and likes nothing better than going out for a weekly meal with his sons to the Colcot Arms in Barry.

For his birthday celebration he will be joined by his children, his grandchildren, his great grandchildren and his great-great grandchildren at a restaurant in Cardiff.



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Local hypnotherapist, Sue Pitman practises Solution Focused hypnotherapy helping chil-

dren suffering such as low confidence/self esteem; sleep disorders; bed wetting; phobias; exam nerves. Studies show children (7 to 17) respond positively to hypnosis and talking therapy which Sue combines with cognitive behavioural therapy and NLP techniques, focusing on the child's solution.

For more information call Sue on 07795 964066 or see www.cardiffhypnotherapysolutions.co.uk for more information.



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Will Aid – no better time to get a Will done

IMAGINE you've lived with your partner for 20 years in his house. You've never married and you have no children. Your partner dies suddenly and hasn't made a will. After the funeral his family, who you haven't seen for years, ask you to leave the house.

Can they do that? The answer is, probably, yes.

The concept of a 'common law wife' doesn't exist in law and a co-habitee has no automatic right to inherit her partner's estate or deal with his assets and personal possessions.

Where there isn't a will rigid statutory rules come into effect known as 'the intestacy rules'.

These rules lay down the order in which family members are entitled to the grant of probate. They also specify who can inherit. Unmarried partners are not included in the list.

Of course, the co-habitee may have other rights (an Inheritance Act claim or rights to an equitable interest in the property) but these will cost time and money to assert which could have been avoided had a simple will been drafted.

We regularly see situations where the small cost of making a will could have saved money later. A common situation arises where a parent has several children from different relationships and doesn't make a will.

If there is no spouse the children are entitled to the grant and in general terms the rule is 'first come first served'.

It won't be any sur-

prise to know that a row frequently breaks out as to who should be in charge. This messy situation can be avoided if the parent takes a few minutes to decide who he or she wants to inherit and executes a valid will.

Even if a will is made, if it isn't done properly it may be invalid. Homemade wills can be a big problem. A technical flaw or uncertain wording or even the crossing out of names and gifts can make a will invalid or worse, partially invalid.

If you are among the 60 per cent of the population who haven't yet made a will, there has never been a better time to do it.

For the whole month of November, you can make a simple will with firms of solicitors who sponsor Will Aid.

For one month, Hutton's will waive its fee and invite clients to make a donation to Will Aid. Will Aid was founded 25 years ago and over the years we are proud to have helped raise over £13.6 million for causes such as the Red Cross, Action Aid, the NSPCC and many other charities.

To find out more about this scheme please contact: Clare Strowbridge, Hutton's Advocates & Solicitors, 16 St Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff CF10 3DD, telephone 029 2037 8621 or email: clare.strowbridge@huttons-solicitors.co.uk

Quality care for all our doggy clients

VALE Dog Grooming is a small grooming salon run by qualified and compassionate staff.

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No drying cabinets are used and our pets are with a member of staff at all times.

Grooming is by appointment and there is a cancellation list so sometimes grooming can be arranged at a short notice; please ring to check availability.

Collection and delivery is also available on request. Please ring for further details – telephone 01446 760236.

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WHAT DO YOU DO WITH YOUR OLD DIRECTORIES?

NOVEMBER is usually the time the new directories for 2014 will start to land on doorsteps, which sometimes leaves people with the quandary as to what to do with their old ones.

The Vale Council's cabinet

member for the environment and visible services, Coun Rob Curtis, said: "Please add them to your kerbside collection to be recycled."

"It doesn't even matter if the directory is a mixed material – that is a hard-backed card cover and paper pages, pop them in your blue co-mingled bag or ide-

ally at the base of your green box (we ask for it to be at the bottom, to try and preserve the paper quality should it rain).

"Our teams will do the rest; feasibly your 2013 information could be recycled and turned into something different you will be reading in 2014!"



Vale Cycling Servicing will build your Christmas bike

MANY people will be buying a bike through the internet for someone this Christmas. Avoid the disappointment of a box of bits on the big day by having it professionally assembled.

Prices start from £30 for a bike in a box to £120 for a bike built from parts to your specification.

All bikes will be built to British Standards BS 6102: Part 1: 1992;

www.bsieducation.org/Education14-

Help to Buy 2 comes to Wales!

If you've been thinking of moving home but are struggling to find a large enough deposit, help may be at hand!

A Government-backed scheme, Help to Buy: Mortgage Guarantee (also known as Help to Buy 2), should mean that more high loan-to-value mortgages become available to would-be borrowers – and the good news is this scheme is available to borrowers in Wales.

For the borrower, the new mortgages will work just like any normal house loan, but at loans-to-value between 80 and 95 per cent.

This means that the borrower may only have to find a five per cent deposit.

The new mortgages will be available for both home movers and first time buyers, subject to certain restrictions.

While the scheme may help borrowers to move onto or up the property ladder, it is important to note that borrowers remain fully responsible for their mortgage payments and any shortfall in the normal way, and they will be subject to lenders' normal checks on your eligibility for the new scheme.

For independent mortgage advice, contact CBK Wales on 0300 303 8525 or email info@cbkwales.co.uk.

19/bicycles/bicycle-spec.shtml.

Bespoke built bicycles also include first service and delivery in the Vale free.

If you've got any questions about having a bike built to your specification, then please contact Vale Cycle Servicing (see advert).

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Fireworks display goes off with a bang!

THE annual fireworks display lit up Barry Island on Tuesday, November 5, as thousands came to see the excitement.

PHILIP J BROWN took these pictures overlooking the Old Harbour, and as you can see, there was plenty to wow the crowd.



Public Notices

NOTICE OF CO-OPTION Section 116 Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 COWBRIDGE (ANCIENT BOROUGH) WITH LLANBLETHIAN TOWN COUNCIL LLANBLETHIAN WEST WARD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that ONE Vacancy has occurred in the office of Councillor for the above mentioned Ward, and the Town Council intends to co-opt.

Expressions of interest are being sought from members of the public who meet the following qualifications and are interested in representing their community on the aforementioned Town Council. You must be a British, Commonwealth, Irish or a European Union citizen and be 18 years of age or over; and meet at least one of the following criteria:

- registered as a local government elector for the area named above; or
- during the whole of the last 12 months occupied as owner or tenant land or other premises in the community named above; or
- your principal or only place of work during the last 12 months has been in the community named above; or
- you have during the whole of the last 12 months resided in the Community or within 4.8 kilometres of it.

*Certain people are disqualified from standing, and these include paid officers of the town council, anyone subject to bankruptcy restriction orders and those subject to recent sentences of imprisonment. It is the responsibility of the candidates to ensure that they are qualified to stand.

Signed Andrew Davies, Town Clerk
Dated this 7th November 2013.

If you wish to be considered for co-option for the vacant seat or want more information regarding the role of a Town Councillor please contact the Town Clerk at The Town Hall, 21 High Street, Cowbridge, CF71 7AD by Friday 29th November 2013

NOTICE OF CO-OPTION Section 116 Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 LLANTWIT MAJOR TOWN COUNCIL NORTH WARD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that ONE Vacancy has occurred in the office of Councillor for the above mentioned Ward, and the Town Council intends to co-opt.

Expressions of interest are being sought from members of the public who meet the following qualifications and are interested in representing their community on the aforementioned Town Council. You must be a British, Commonwealth, Irish or a European Union citizen and be 18 years of age or over; and meet at least one of the following criteria:

- registered as a local government elector for the area named above; or
- during the whole of the last 12 months occupied as owner or tenant land or other premises in the community named above; or
- your principal or only place of work during the last 12 months has been in the community named above; or
- you have during the whole of the last 12 months resided in the Community or within 4.8 kilometres of it.

*Certain people are disqualified from standing, and these include paid officers of the town council, anyone subject to bankruptcy restriction orders and those subject to recent sentences of imprisonment. It is the responsibility of the candidates to ensure that they are qualified to stand.

Signed Ruth Quinn, Town Clerk
Dated this 1st November 2013.

If you wish to be considered for co-option for the vacant seat or want more information regarding the role of Town Councillor please contact the Town Clerk, Town Hall, Llantwit Major, CF61 1SD by Wednesday 20th November 2013.

Gladstone pupils help make world a brighter place

ON Friday October 4, Gladstone Primary School celebrated their harvest festival in their usual caring, sharing way.

Children from years 2 to 6 sang, danced and performed to the rest of the school in a service of thanksgiving.

Proudly on display were a multitude of household items, clothes, books and toys donated by parents and friends of Gladstone all ready to be boxed and sent off to Track 2000 – a charity committed to serving those in need in the local community.

At the end of the assembly, Track 2000 came to collect the items. It took over 50

children from year-5 to help carry everything to the van and the driver, Glyn, said that he had never seen his van so full in nine years.

The year-5 children then sang 'We are the World' as the van drove off – and the words 'It's true we'll make a brighter day, just you and me' have never been so poignant.

Teacher and organiser Sarah Creasey enthused: "Team Gladstone have done it again. The children performed so beautifully, which is a credit to the fantastic staff and our parents gave as generously as ever. The looks on the faces of the Track 2000 staff said it all!"



JENNER PARK PUPILS' WOODLAND EXHIBITION



Some of the children with their exhibition.

AS part of a Cornerstones 'Wild Wood' topic, year-4 pupils in Jenner Park Primary have been busy working towards an art exhibition in Porthkerry Forest Lodge.

The children started learning all about the inhabitants of the local woodland with a visit to Porthkerry Park in September. Since then, the children have created robust 3D models of woodland creatures using wire and mod roc.

Also, children wrote poetry and reports based on woodland creatures.

On Friday October 25, children invited their families and friends to come and see their work laid out in an exhibition in the lodge.

A school spokesman said: "It has been a huge success and children's work will remain on display in the lodge for the foreseeable future, to inspire our community."

Dinas Powys runs DIY drop-in session on LDP

THERE is outrage that the Vale Council has failed to organise a public event in Dinas Powys regarding the Local Development Plan (LDP).

Therefore the local community councillors have organised a drop-in session for residents to air their views on Saturday, November 16 at the Murchfield Hall, Sunnycroft Lane from 10am to 12 noon.

The latest proposals for the St Cyres annexe site by the Vale Council changes the land designation from housing to mixed use.

This means that the site would be allocated for housing and community use. The number of houses proposed is 300.

Land off Caerleon Road will see an increase in the proposed number of houses. The latest figure is 75 houses.

In both instances, access would be via the Murch Road/Cardiff Road junction.

However the document gives no indication how this junction could cope with extra traffic.

The issue of dealing with traffic from the site remains vague with the draft plan stating that "a suitable safe access is required" and that a "full and comprehensive Scoping Study" should be agreed. Nor is there any reference to the by-pass.

In reality, there is no detail about transport and how the local roads and the main Cardiff Road will cope with the additional traffic.

There are two new sites, one at Ardwyn the former children's home off Penyturmpike and 50 properties at Cross Common Road opposite Hebron Hall.

Here a new junction would be required with the main road.

The final result, if all this is agreed, is there will be an increase in housing, up from 400 to 440.

However the major issue of public transport and extra vehicles heading to Cardiff and Barry has been glossed over and must be addressed first.

Dinas Powys
Community Council

GROUP MEETING

The Vale of Glamorgan Diabetes UK Voluntary Group will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, November 19, at the Board Room, Llandough Hospital, Penarth from 7.30pm - 9.00pm.

The speaker will be Dr Richard Chudeleigh, whose talk is entitled 'Kidney Complications in Diabetes'; all are welcome.



How the poppy became a symbol of Remembrance...

IT'S that time of year when we begin to notice that there are poppies for sale almost everywhere we look and we put our hands in our pockets and place our contribution in the collecting box and pin a poppy emblem to our jackets and coats.

Have you ever thought about why we follow this custom? Yes, I know it's our way of supporting the Royal British Legion's annual appeal, but why a poppy, and what do they do with the money?

The first of these symbols of Remembrance went on sale in November 1921, but it might surprise readers to know that it wasn't actually a British idea. It's one of those things that wasn't thought up by any single person but evolved from the actions of three people – a Canadian medical officer, an American YMCA worker and a French lady.

On May 3, 1915, after presiding over the funeral of a friend and fellow soldier who died in the Second Battle of Ypres, the Canadian medical officer, a Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, was inspired to write a poem.

McCrae, appalled by the carnage he saw, performed the burial service himself, at which time he noted how poppies quickly grew around the graves of those who died.

The next day, he composed the poem while sitting in the back of an ambulance. According to

legend, fellow soldiers retrieved the poem after McCrae, initially unsatisfied with his work, discarded it. 'In Flanders Fields' was first published on December 8 of that year in the London-based magazine *Punch*.

*In Flanders Fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.*

It is one of the most popular and most quoted poems from the war. However, the idea of the poppy as a symbol of Remembrance then moved to the USA.

The idea for the Flanders Fields Memorial Poppy came to Moina Michael while she was working at

the YMCA Overseas War Secretaries headquarters, on a Saturday morning in November 1918, two days before the Armistice was declared at 11 o'clock on November 11.

At about 10.30am, when everyone was on duty elsewhere, Moina found a few moments to read a magazine. In it she came across a page that carried a vivid colour illustration for the poem 'We Shall Not Sleep' (later named 'In Flanders Fields') written by the Canadian Army doctor, John McCrae.

Reading the poem on this occasion, she had read it several times before. Moina was transfixed by the last verse – 'To you from failing hands we throw the torch; be yours to hold it high. If ye break faith with us who die, we shall not sleep, though poppies grow in Flanders Fields.'

At that moment Moina Michael made a personal pledge to 'keep the faith' and vowed always to wear a red poppy of Flanders Fields as a sign of Remembrance and as an emblem for 'keeping the faith with all who died'. She then wrote these words in reply.

*Oh! you who sleep in Flanders Fields,
Sleep sweet – to rise anew!
We caught the torch you threw
And holding high, we keep the Faith
With all who died.*

*We cherish, too, the poppy red
That grows on fields where valour led;
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies,
But lends a lustre to the red
Of the flower that blooms above the dead
In Flanders Fields.*

*And now the Torch and Poppy Red
We wear in honor of our dead.
Fear not that ye have died for naught;
We'll teach the lesson that ye wrought
In Flanders Fields. In Flanders Fields we fought.*

She distributed silk poppies to her friends and campaigned to have it adopted as an official symbol of Remembrance by the American Legion.

The French lady now enters the story. Madame Guerin, who attended the 1920 convention of the American Legion, supported Moina Michael's proposal and was herself inspired to sell poppies in her native France, to raise money for the war's orphans.

In 1921, Madame Guerin sent poppy sellers to London ahead of Armistice Day, attracting the attention of Field Marshal Douglas Haig. A co-founder of the Royal British Legion, Haig supported and encouraged the sale.

The practice quickly spread throughout the British empire and became the official symbol of Remembrance. The sale and wearing of poppies in the days leading up to Remembrance Day, helps to raise the funds needed to support Servicemen and women who have been injured in the service of our country and dependants of those who gave their lives.

Amongst other support programmes the Defence Recovery Capability programme delivers coordinated recovery support for currently serving personnel who are wounded, injured or sick.

In conjunction with the Ministry of Defence and other Service charities, the Legion is helping to fund Personnel Recovery Centres and the Battle Back centre as part of this programme, to help individuals recover and either return to duty, or to re-skill and, with support, move successfully into civilian life.

These programmes alone are costing millions of pounds to support. Financial support is also being given to help fund the Combat Stress organisation which deals with an ever increasing number of servicemen suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

As operations in Afghanistan start to wind down, and the troops start to come home, there are many who will think that the support which the Legion gives will also wind down.

In fact, there will be a need to support the many who have returned with life-changing injuries for many years to come.

The Poppy will remain as an essential means of ensuring that the sacrifice of those who have given their country life or limb will not only be remembered, but given the support that they both need and deserve.

BOB WHEATLEY

The Mayor of Barry Councillor Claire Curtis



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On behalf of
The Vale of Glamorgan Council,
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Wilkinson, wishes the Royal
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every success and is pleased
to support this worthy cause.



Ar ran Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
y mae'r Maer, y Cyngorydd
Margaret Wilkinson am ddymuno
pob llwyddiant i **Apel Y Pabi'r**
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Pleased to support the Poppy Appeal

WELSH PEOPLE HAVE LAID DOWN THEIR LIVES ACROSS THE WORLD IN PURSUIT OF FREEDOM

THE year 2014 sees the start of the centenary events to commemorate the Great War and I am honoured to sit on several Welsh Government committees advising our government as to the most appropriate way of remembering all those who served in that conflict.

We will take this opportunity to give events here in Wales a unique identity and to look at parts of the war other than the ones traditionally referred to: the first day of the Somme, Passchendaele et al (dreadful though these battles were).

It is important to realise there was sacrifice in other parts of the world too.

The coming years should give us all a chance to look again at our view of Wales's involvement in the Great War and to consider areas that have become a little lost in the mists of time.

This will allow us to refocus our attention, whether it be the 2015 tribute to the first major action of the Welsh Guards at Loos; the 2016 commemoration of the momentous battle for Mametz Wood, involving the other three Welsh regiments; the 2017 recollection of the life and death of the poet Hedd Wyn; the Welsh airmen who flew with the Royal Flying Corps; the sailors who served in the Pacific and the Atlantic; the efforts of the peace movements to end the war; the role of women in the support services or in the armaments factories; the miners and factory workers who provided the material for the three services or the merchant seamen who risked their lives to keep raw materials and food flowing into the country.

All deserve our respect and our thanks.

We should also remember that Welsh men and women served and laid down their lives in theatres across the world, from the Western Front to China, from East Africa to Mesopotamia and a whole host of other areas.

They served on land, at sea and in the air and, sadly, many never came home to the land of their birth.

Over the next few years there will be national events and many thousands of hours of television programmes recalling the sacri-



DR JONATHAN HICKS EXPLAINS THE IMPORTANCE OF REMEMBRANCE

fice made by our forebears, but the most poignant events will be those that occur at local levels, where communities throughout Wales will pay their own respects to former inhabitants of their cities, towns and villages who paid the ultimate price for the policies of national governments. This is where true remembrance will take place.

There will, rightly, be many one-off events over the next five years which will unite the nation in its gratitude, but it is the ceremonies that go on year after year on Remembrance Sunday which I would like to highlight in this piece.

This coming Sunday people will attend services at local memorials and in local places of worship, whatever the weather, as they do each year, and will continue to do so even after the hubris of the next few years has passed, to remember the dead who gave their lives in the cause of freedom.

There is one casualty of the Great War to whom I should like to pay tribute this year.

Private Samuel Gordon Moore was just 19 when he was killed on October 15, 1918 – less than a month before the war would end.

A chaplain wrote to his parents at 4 Tydfil Street, Barry Dock: "His company were storming a wood which the enemy stubbornly held, and Moore, at the forefront of the fight with no cover whatever, remained at his gun until it was



Samuel Gordon Moore.

red hot, firing round after round into the enemy forces.

"This example of soul bravery rallied the others and at the most critical moment – and there is no doubt that had he been spared, he would have received high decoration – but at the summit of his success, when this brave boy had achieved an almost superhuman act, he was hit with a bullet and died instantly."

Samuel was serving with the 2nd Battalion of the South Wales Borderers. To illustrate that he will not be forgotten, in October 2018 the inhabitants of the village of Gulleghem, near Ypres in Belgium, where he fell, will be holding a special ceremony to remember the sacrifice that Samuel and his fellow soldiers made on that day – a remarkable tribute.

Samuel is also listed on Barry's Roll of Honour inside the Memorial Hall.

Because it is important that young people understand the significance of Remembrance Sunday, students from my school, St Cyres, will be laying wreaths at services in Barry, Penarth and Dinas Powys over the coming days to show their determination to ensure that the names of the fallen will never be forgotten.

I have recently set up two Facebook sites – 'Barry and WW1' and 'Barry and WW2' – and invite readers to share on these sites their memories of the roles their relatives played in the two terrible conflicts of the last century so that we can all ensure that they will always be remembered.

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alun.cairns.mp@parliament.uk
29 High Street / 29 Y Stryd Fawr, Barry / Y Sarni, CF62 7EB
www.aluncairns.co.uk

Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival looks forward to another 10 years!

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

OTHER PICTURES ARE
AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

Pictures can be purchased
by contacting:

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Telephone 07791 228684
www.ffotoimage.co.uk

COWBRIDGE Food and Drink Festival celebrated its 10th anniversary over the weekend of October 26-27.

As you can, see people of all generations enjoyed the two days, and the festival is promising to come back next year – even bigger and better.

Here's to the next 10 years!



'All Age' service at All Saints

THE monthly 'All Age' service at All Saints Church, Penarth, on October 27 attracted the usual large

congregation.

We were delighted to welcome once again members of 12th Penarth Brownie Pack, who enjoyed assisting with the collection and serv-

ing refreshments after the service.

This month's theme was the story Jesus told of the Good Samaritan, and what it teaches us about loving our neigh-

bour.

The story was told through an 'instant drama' using volunteers from the congregation, and the address was given by Reader Jennifer Hardye.

Prayers were led by members of the youth group, and the service included the usual mix of traditional hymns and contemporary worship songs.

The next All Age service will be on Sunday, November 24 at 10am – all are welcome.

For more information, visit www.allsaints-penarth.org.uk.

MEL GRIFFIN

'SHOULDN'T COUNCIL FOLLOW ED'S LEAD?

IT is great to see that Ed Miliband plans to give firms paying the Living Wage a tax break of up to £1,000 for every worker they help.

This would certainly help workers to get out of the cycle of low wages and poverty.

It is just a great pity that his Leader of the Vale Council does not make the same pledge and support taking our own council workers out of low pay.

Of course, he is saying exactly the same as the Tories did about the minimum wage, that it would cost jobs and services, and therefore I must question his Socialist credentials.

Coun Richard Bertin, Barry

VALE MP TABLES 10-MINUTE RULE BILL

YESTERDAY in Parliament (Wednesday) Vale MP Alun Cairns tabled a new law to help combat nuisance telephone calls.

The law, which is part of a series of measures aimed at tackling the problem will allow people to identify callers before answering and make it easier to complain when the opt-out facility has been

breached.

Mr Cairns explained that in order to make a complaint about a nuisance call, the marketing company need to be identified. However, most withhold their telephone numbers.

The new law will force all non-domestic telephone callers to display their number. This will also allow local residents to decide whether to answer the

telephone or not.

Alun Cairns' 10 Minute Rule Bill will empower OFCOM to manage a database for those organisations that require their number to remain anonymous, such as the police or domestic violence charities.

Mr Cairns commented: "I have received many complaints by constituents who have been plagued

by nuisance calls. It has been almost impossible to complain about these calls without knowing the telephone number of the caller.

"This Bill will make it easier to complain and will empower constituents to choose whether they want to answer the phone or not. It will also provide more evidence to the regulators to fine those companies that are breaching the Telephone Preference Service code."

The Vale MP added: "When caller ID was first introduced all numbers were displayed. Now, most organisations withhold it – including Parliament. It is right and fair that charities such as Women's Aid or the police are able to withhold their numbers, but that should be the exception rather than the rule."

This Bill follows the recent launch of a report by the All Parliamentary Party Group (APPG) on Nuisance Calls, co-chaired by Alun Cairns MP, which listed 16 recommendations to combat nuisance calls.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004

The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004

The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales)

Regulations 2005 (Regulation 17)

Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010

Notice of Deposit of Proposals for a Local Development Plan

Vale of Glamorgan Local Development Plan 2011- 2026

The Vale of Glamorgan Council has prepared Local Development Plan (LDP) documents for the above Plan. The LDP will, upon adoption, replace the current Development Plan and form the basis for decisions on land use planning for the Vale of Glamorgan.

The LDP documents include the 'Deposit LDP', the Sustainability Appraisal Report (which incorporates the Environmental Report), and an Initial Consultation Report together with other supporting documents.

The 6 week consultation period will commence on **Friday 8th November 2013** and will end at **5pm on Friday 20th December 2013**.

All documents are available for inspection on the Council's website at: www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/ldp. Hard copies are also available for public inspection free of charge during normal opening hours at the following locations:

- Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU
- Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry Docks, Barry, CF63 4RT
- Vale of Glamorgan Council, Alps Depot, Quarry Road, Wenvoe, CF5 6AA
- All Vale of Glamorgan Libraries.

In addition there will be a number of public exhibitions within the Vale of Glamorgan, the dates, times and locations of which can be found on the Council's web site or by telephoning 01446 700111.

Representations (including objections) in respect of the Deposit LDP can be made :-

ONLINE – By completing the electronic form at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/ldp

BY EMAIL – In writing (preferably using the Representation Form) to ldp@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

BY POST - In writing (preferably using the Representation Form) and sending to: The LDP Team, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry Docks, Barry, CF63 4RT

Representations must be received **no later than 5pm on Friday 20th December 2013**.

Representations (including those taking the form of objections) should specify the matters to which they relate. Objections should also specify the change sought, the grounds on which they are made and the test(s) of soundness to which they relate (see below).

A form for making representations and guidance notes are available from the above address or on-line at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/ldp.

The Authority's Feedback Mechanism.

The Deposit LDP will be considered by an independent Inspector who will assess whether it is 'sound'. There are a number of tests of soundness and these can be found on the form for making representations or at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/ldp. Objections to the Deposit LDP should make reference to these tests wherever possible.

Any representation proposing a new or extended site for development or one that proposes to incorporate a site rejected by the Authority should include information on the site's compatibility with the Plan's sustainability appraisal and community involvement.

The Authority has prepared guidance on the work required by the proponent for alternative sites presented in response to this consultation, and has made the Authority's baseline data and assessment methodology available on its website. An alternative site which has not been subject to sustainability appraisal is unlikely to be considered suitable for allocation in the Plan by the Inspector.

Representations may also be accompanied by a request to be notified at a specified address of the next stage of the LDP and/or that the LDP has been submitted to the Welsh Government for independent examination and/or of the adoption of the Plan.

The Local Planning Authority cannot change the Plan at this stage but it can decide whether it is in favour of any changes proposed. Representations made in accordance with this notice (i.e. 'duly made') will be considered by an independent Inspector appointed to examine the soundness of the Plan.

Only those making representations seeking to change the Deposit LDP (i.e. objectors) whose representations were 'duly made' have the right to appear before and be heard by the Inspector at the Examination. (Section 64 (6) of the 2004 Act.)

Further information is available from the Council's website at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/ldp or by contacting the LDP Team at the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry Docks, Barry, CF63 4RT, by phone on 01446 700111, or by email at ldp@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

Deddf Cynllunio A Phrynu Gorfodol 2004

Rheoliadau Asesu Amgylcheddol Cynlluniau A Rhaglenni (Cymru) 2004

Rheoliadau Cynllunio Gwlad A Thref

(Cynllun Datblygu Lleol) (Cymru) 2005 (Rheoliad 17)

Rheoliadau Cadwraeth Cynefinoedd A Rhywogaethau 2010

Rhybudd o Adneuo Cynigion ar gyfer Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2011 - 2026

Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg wedi paratodi dogfennau Cynllun Datblygu Lleol ar gyfer y Cynllun uchod. Bydd y Cynllun Datblygu, ar ôl ei fabwysiadu, yn disodli'r cynllun datblygu presennol, a bydd yn sail i benderfyniadau ynglŷn â chynllunio ar gyfer defnyddio i'r ym Mro Morgannwg.

Mae dogfennau'r CDLI yn cynnwys y Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Adneuo; Adroddiad Gwerthuso Cynaliadwydd (sy'n cynnwys yr Adroddiad Amgylcheddol) a'r Adroddiad Ymgynghori cychwynnol a dogfennau ategol eraill.

Bydd y cynnod ymgynghori 6 wythnos yn dechrau ar **ddydd Gwener 8 Tachwedd 2013** ac yn dod i ben am **5pm ar ddydd Gwener 20 Rhagfyr 2013**.

Cewch ddarllen yr holl ddogfennau ar wefan y cyngor drwy fynd i www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/ldp. Mae copiau caled ar gael hefyd i'r cyhoedd eu darllen yn rhad ac am ddim yn y manau canlynol yn ystod oriau agor arferol:

- Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Swyddfeydd Dinesig, Heol Holton, Y Barri, CF63 4RU
- Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Swyddfa'r Doc, Dociau'r Barri, Y Barri, CF63 4RT
- Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Canolfan yr Alpau, Heol y Chwarel, Gwenvô, CF5 6AA
- Holl Lyfrgelloedd a Bro Morgannwg.

Bydd nifer o arddangosfeydd cyhoeddus yn cael eu cynnal yn y Fro hefyd, a chewch wybod dyddiadau, amserau a lleoliadau'r rhain drwy fynd i wefan y cyngor neu ffonio 01446 700111.

Cewch wneud sylwadau ar y Cynllun Adneuo (a mynegi gwrthwynebiad iddo hefyd, os mynnwch):-

AR-LEIN – drwy lenwi'r ffurflen electronig ar safle www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/ldp

DRWY E-BOST – drwy ysgrifennu i gyfeiriad ldp@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk (gan ddefnyddio'r ffurflen sylwadau, os oes modd)

DRWY'R POST – drwy ysgrifennu at Dim y Cynllun Datblygu Lleol, Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Swyddfa'r Doc, Dociau'r Barri, Y Barri, CF63 4RT (gan ddefnyddio'r ffurflen sylwadau os oes modd).

Mae'n rhaid i'r holl sylwadau ein **cyrraedd erbyn 5pm ar ddydd Gwener 20 Rhagfyr 2013**.

Wrth wneud sylwadau neu fynegi gwrthwynebiad i'r Cynllun, dylech egluro beth yn union sydd gennych mewn golwg. Wrth fynegi gwrthwynebiad, dylech egluro'r union newid yr ydych am ei weld a'ch rheswm dros ei gynnig, a chyfeirio hefyd at y prawf neu'r profion cadernid sy'n berthnasol iddo (gweler isod).

Cewch ffurflen ar gyfer eich sylwadau a nodiadau canllaw drwy ysgrifennu i'r cyfeiriad uchod neu drwy fynd i www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/ldp

Prosesau Awdorth yr Awdurdod

Bydd y Cynllun Adneuo'n cael ei ystyried gan Arolygydd annibynnol a fydd yn asesu p'un ai fo'n 'gadarn' ai peidio. Mae nifer o broffion cadernid, a chewch weld y rhain ar y ffurflen sylwadau neu drwy fynd i www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/ldp. Dylech gyfeirio at y profion hyn gymaint ag sy'n bosibl wrth fynegi gwrthwynebiad i'r Cynllun.

Dylai unrhyw gynnig am ddatblygu safle newydd neu estynedig, neu am gynnwys safle a wrthodwyd gan yr Awdurdod, ddangos i ba raddau y mae'r safle hwnnw'n cydwedd â gwerthusiad cynaliadwydd y Cynllun ac yn cynnwys y gymuned.

Mae'r Awdurdod wedi paratodi canllawiau ar y gwaith y mae'n rhaid ei wneud er mwyn cynnig safle gwahanol mewn ymateb i'r ymgynghoriad hwn, ac y mae methodoleg asesu a data sylfaenol i'w gweld ar ein gwefan. Nid yw'r Arolygydd yn debyg o gymeradwyo unrhyw safle o'r fath ar gyfer ei gynnwys y Cynllun onidai ei fod eisoes wedi'i werthuso o safbwynt cynaliadwydd.

Wrth wneud eich sylwadau, cewch hefyd ofyn i ni anfon nodyn atoch i gyfeiriad penodol i'ch rhybuddio: bod cam nesaf y Cynllun wedi dechrau; bod y Cynllun wedi cael ei gylfynno i Lywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer ei archwilio'n annibynnol a/neu fod y Cynllun wedi'i fabwysiadu.

Ni all yr Awdurdod Cynllunio Lleol newid y Cynllun yn ystod y cam hwn, ond gall benderfynu pa un a yw o blaid unrhyw newid a gynigwyd ai peidio. Bydd sylwadau sydd wedi'u gwneud yn unol â'r hysbysiad hwn (h.y. yn briodol) yn cael eu hystyried gan Arolygydd annibynnol a benodwyd i archwilio cadernid y cynllun.

Dim ond y rhai sydd wedi gwneud sylwadau 'yn briodol' er mwyn ceisio newid y Cynllun Adneuo (h.y. gwrthwynebwyr) a fydd yn cael ymddangos gerbron yr Arolygydd yn ystod yr Archwiliad a chael gwrandawriad. (Adran 64(6) Deddf 2004)

Cewch rador o wybodaeth drwy fynd i wefan y cyngor - www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/ldp - a thrwy gysylltu â Thim y Cynllun Datblygu Lleol, Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Swyddfa'r Doc, Dociau'r Barri, Y Barri, CF63 4RT drwy ffonio 01446 700111 neu anfon neges i ldp@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

At risk groups get flu jabs free

VALE AM, Jane Hutt, has pointed out the benefits of having a flu jab at a local chemist.

She said: "It is very convenient to have a flu jab in one of the many community pharmacies doing flu jabs this year."

"It means there is no need to block up busy GPs' surgeries and the availability of chemists in high streets is really helpful with many open at times convenient for people in work or out shopping on weekends. I encourage everyone to get a flu jab – and mine did not hurt a bit!"

Matthew Jones, a development manager with the Co-operative Pharmacy, said: "The flu vaccination is the most effective way of preventing seasonal flu and every time you head out to work this winter, you run the risk of catching it, so it is really important to protect yourself."

The three Barry pharmacies delivering NHS flu jabs free of charge for people in at risk groups are Boots and Co-operative in Holton Road, and Petersen's in Park Crescent. Appointments are not needed.

Cowbridge Senior Citizens' latest events

OUR trip to Brecon included a canal boat ride.

The October trip was a tremendous success because we were so fortunate to have a gloriously sunny day for our trip.

We arrived in time for coffee and a look around the town before our mid-day trip on the canal.

The autumn colours on the towpath's hedges as we drifted along were wonderful to see.

Refreshments were served on the boat – just to sustain us until we had a late lunch in Brecon.

We also had more time for shopping or just a walk around the town.

We returned to the coach at 4pm for our return home to Cowbridge.

Our next outing is a shopping trip to Bath, always a popular venue.

On November 12, leaving Geoffrey Ashe bus stop at 8:50am and the Town Hall at 9am.

The cost will be £15, but it will be reduced if we have a sufficient number of passengers to cover costs.

All are welcome, not restricted to members only, please contact me on 01446 775508 or Patricia Prothero on 01446 775097 to reserve seats.

Pay on the coach, so please bring change with you!

Our October meeting had a very interesting speaker, Mr Tony Bennett on 'Achievement in Later Life'.

It was very informative and helpful to all who came, and we are not restricted to only seniors in our meetings, all age groups are welcome.

Our meeting (in the Lesser Hall) will be on November 14 at 2pm, when we are delighted to have John Weavers, a keen local cyclist, to be our speaker.

We will also be taking final reservations for our Christmas lunch on December 19, at St Athan Golf Club (transport has been arranged).

Menus will be available for choices and a deposit of £5 per head will be needed in that meeting.

All are welcome to join us at any of our activities, but it is hoped that members' Christmas meals will have a subsidy (which I am currently negotiating!).

Please come to our next meeting to reserve your meal and pay the deposit, if possible, or ring me (01446 775508) to reserve a place.

Mavis Ashford, Chairman

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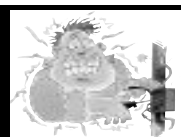
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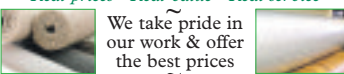


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CYHOEDDUS 2013**

Ar 14 Hydref 2013, cadarnhaodd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg y Gorchymyn uchod.

Eiddaf y Gorchymyn fel y'i cadarnhawyd, fydd gwyr'n llywfr troed cyhoeddus yn y modd a egluredd yn yr Atodiad isod ac a we'llar ar lap y Gorchymyn.

Fydd copïau o'r Gorchymyn a gadarnhawyd a map y Gorchymyn i'w gweld yn ddad ac am ddim yn y cyfeirdd isod rhwng 9.00am a 4.00pm, yn ystod yr wythnos o 7 Tachwedd 2013 hyd 19 Rhagfyr 2013. Bydd copïau o'r map a'r Gorchymyn ar werth yma am £4.50 yr un.

Daw'r Gorchymyn hwn i'w ar 7 Tachwedd 2013. Serch hynny, os bydd unrhyw un sy'n hysgo iddo gael cam, yn dymuno holl unrhydd gilyddwyl y Gorchymyn neu unrhyw ddiarpariaeth ychydig, am nad yw o lewll pŵerau Ddeddf Pihnydd, ymlau na chrydnyllfawdd i golygion y Ddeddf neu reoladau a we'llod o dani with gadarnhawd Gorchymyn, caiff yr unrhyglyn hennw we'llod cais i'r Uchel Llyw o dan baragraff 2 Atodiad 2 o'r Ddeddf drefn we'lloddd paragraff 5 Atodiad 6, cyn pen 6 wythnos o ddyddiad cyhoeddi'r Rhybudd yn gyffwrll.

Dyddiedig 7 Tachwedd 2013

**Cyfarwyddwr Gaeathau Datblygion,
Swyddfa'r Gae, Docia'r Barri, Y Barri, CF63 4RT**

**THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN
COUNCIL
BRO MORGANNWG**

**NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION
OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER
SECTION 119 HIGHWAYS ACT 1980
THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN
COUNCIL
(PUBLIC PATH NO.7
LLANCARFAN)
PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION
ORDER 2013**

On the 14th day of October 2013 The Vale of Glamorgan Council confirmed the above Order.

The effect of the Order as confirmed is to divert the public footpath as set out in the Schedule and shown in the Order map.

A copy of the confirmed Order and Order map may be seen at the address below free of charge between 9.00am and 4.00pm on weekdays from 7th November 2013 until 19th December 2013. Copies of the Order and map may be bought here at a price of £4.50.

This Order comes into force on the 7th November 2013, but if any person aggrieved by the Order desires to question its validity or that of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the above Act, or on the ground that any requirement of that Act or any regulation made under it has not been complied with in relation to the confirmation of the Order, he/she may, under paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act, as applied by paragraph 5 of Schedule 5 to the Act, within 6 weeks from the date on which the Notice is first published make an application to the High Court.

Dated this 7th day of November 2013

**Director of Development Services
Dock Offices, Barry Docks, Barry, CF63 4RT**

Injury hit Phoenix face Blaenau Gwent

FORTUNATELY a sheltered Kay Field, Crumlin was the venue for this National League Division 1 match between Blaenau Gwent ladies and Pencoed Phoenix in autumnal surroundings.

Nevertheless, this brought little comfort to a Phoenix squad battling against an unprecedented injury list, and meeting a much changed Blaenau Gwent combination from the team defeated by 29 points to 10 some five weeks ago.

With the home side dominating possession in the opening half Phoenix players who did well were Hannah Brunskill at the lineout, Leanne Burnell, Amy Stevens (who was later forced from the field of play with what looked like another bad injury), and Jade Mullen in spasmodic Phoenix attacks, with Mullen free from Army activities putting in a number of big defensive hits!

The home side had used their possession well throughout the half with full back Weybrow getting two of their three first half tries.

Blaenau continued on the attack at the start of the second half and Phoenix full back Lauren Aitken did well to stop a home back row forward on the charge metres from her own line, before again popping up to clear her lines with a good 30 metre touch find.

Phoenix hit back with a superb try, blindside wing Burnell splitting the home midfield before the supporting Mel Clay put Mullen in possession and the centre raced away from 35 metres to score out wide.

Unfortunately for Phoenix they were to lose their own lineout in their 22 and with their defensive alignment caught out by this, conceded a fourth try. Phoenix then enjoyed their best period of the match with Becca Pope, Stevens, and Clay handling to almost work Burnell in at the corner flag.

Aitken then reduced the Blaenau lead with a brilliant solo effort from some 75 metres, initially retrieving a kick, before counter attacking and outpacing several home defenders down the left hand touchline for arguably the try of the match.

Phoenix captain Lowri Reeves, Katie Murphy and Natalie O'Shea were as competitive in the contact area as ever; however, with the loss of Murphy and Stevens to injury, Phoenix were unable to hold the strong finishing Blaenau side and succumbed to a final scoreline of 39-10.



ABOVE: Jade Mullen crosses for a try while **BELOW:** Natalie O'Shea battles her way through two Blaenau Gwent defenders. **PICTURES BY JULIE HANCOCK**



Young Osprey second row Charlotte Mundy and flanker Debra Evans were also competitive throughout for Phoenix.

Phoenix now have a break from league fixtures for regional rugby, and hopefully the regional aspirants within the squad will do well, and experience better luck with injury than of late.

TR

Dinas RFC sit on top of the league

AFTER last week's SWALEC Bowl game, attention returned to league action as Dinas Powis set off, albeit a little later than anticipated, on the relatively long journey to Hirwaun in the heads of the valleys.

Last year's match at the Recreation Ground had been a torrid affair for the Villagers who left it late to steal the win, and therefore there was some trepidation amongst the travelling supporters.

What should have been a relatively comfortable fixture, given the relative positions of each team in the league tables, was to be anything but.

Hirwaun got the proceedings underway and kicked off with the wind at their backs. The hosts started brightly and applied early pressure on Dinas, drawing numerous penalties within the first five minutes of the match.

After several attempts to cross the whitewash they opted to kick for goal and walked away with three points as a reward for their efforts.

The apocalyptic conditions were not conducive to the open expansive game of Dinas and it soon became apparent to all watching that the game would be won by the narrowest of margins.

With the ball akin to a bar of soap both teams struggled to find their rhythm. However, it was Hirwaun who managed to maintain their discipline as the official awarded numerable penalties

against the men from the Vale, handing both possession and territory to the opposition.

In the 30th minute Dinas prop Tom Patterson was shown a yellow card for allegedly handling in the ruck within the final 22 of the visitors' half.

A good scrum by Hirwaun almost proved fruitful as they forced their way over the try line only to be held up by some heroic defending. Having won the resulting scrum, the Villagers were able to clear their lines.

With just three minutes of the first half remaining, the home number 8 handed Dinas their first opportunity to go for goal as he was shown a yellow card for a swinging arm. Gavin Cooper's kick neatly bisected the posts and the half time score was level at 3-3.

After a stern halftime talk by the unimpressed Dinas coaching team, the visitors looked to assert themselves in the worsening conditions.

The restart from David Lloyd was deflected into touch by the receiving player and a free kick was awarded to the Villagers following an infringement at the ensuing lineout.

Opting to take a quick 'tap and go', the ball was spun wide and, after three phases of play, found itself in the hands of Lewis Dunleavy, who scored a very welcome try. The conversion by Cooper saw Dinas take the lead for the first time in the match, Hirwaun 3, Dinas 10.

The official was not giving either team any opportunity to play advantage and consequently

the game descended into a torrid stop-start affair, punctuated with countless penalties and scrums. Neither side looked as though they would score.

Hirwaun were shown their second yellow card within 15 minutes of the restart but Dinas were unable to capitalise on the man advantage.

In fact it was the home team who would score next, as just minutes after returning to full strength, they crashed over in the corner for their first try of the match.

The conversion was missed which proved to be extremely lucky for the visitors as, after an extremely nervous final 10 minutes, the referee brought an end to a dire game in even worse conditions.

The weather had unquestionably played a significant part in keeping the scores low and, despite the win, there was a feeling that Dinas had dropped a valuable bonus point. As it transpired the team's close rivals Cambrian Welfare had suffered a rare defeat at the hands of fellow title challengers Treherbert.

Furthermore, Treherbert had prevented Cambrian from securing a losing bonus point, so consequently Dinas are now the only unbeaten team in Division 5 South Central, and regain the top spot, one point ahead of Treherbert who have played an additional game.

Dinas now have two weeks' respite due to the autumn internationals and will entertain Cefn Coed at the Common on November 23.

SW/MH

ATHLETIC YOUTH BATTLE THROUGH THE CONDITIONS

BRIDGEND Athletic youth's sixth league fixture was a potentially difficult away game at Bonymaen.

The game was played in horrendous conditions with heavy showers and a gale force wind blowing straight down the exposed pitch, with Bridgend Athletic playing with the wind in the first half.

So strong was the wind that it soon became clear that a kicking game would not work, either with or against this wind and both teams opted to keep the ball in hand. Even this proved difficult and passing had to be kept to short range.

The Athletic had the best of the early exchanges with back row forwards Lestyn Merriman and captain Rory Thomas running off the back of the set pieces at every opportunity and applying pressure on their opponents.

Despite numerous errors from both sides, the Athletic kept Bonymaen in their own half for long periods and with the scrum looking strong and the Athletic pack willing to take the game to their opponents the pressure eventually had to tell and after a period of controlled rucks and mauls the

excellent Lestyn Merriman forced his way over on 12 minutes for the Athletic's first try.

Full back Liam Phillips went narrowly wide with the conversion to make the score 5-0 to the Athletic.

From the restart Bonymaen came straight back at the Athletic and showed they were not going to lie down and started to put together some good forward charges with their big front row prominent.

Indeed this forward work was rewarded on 17 minutes when after a period of pressure they levelled the score with an unconverted try to make the score 5-5.

This gave the Swansea side a big lift and they began to use their big forwards more and more.

The Athletic's defence was excellent, however, with Curtis Daniel, Hywel Cosby and Lloyd Griffiths making some big tackles. The lineout was also looking good with second row Matthew Bennett not only taking his own ball but stealing a number of Bonymaen's throw-ins.

The Athletic were awarded a penalty on 25 minutes but full back Phillips again went narrowly wide.

The first half ended at 5-5 and the Athletic would turn into the wind

for what was going to be a tough half of rugby.

The second period started as the first had ended with both teams using their forwards to try and batter a way forward, with both sets of backs defending for their lives in the extreme conditions.

Eventually Bonymaen youth found some field position and after the Athletic infringed at the breakdown, they went ahead with a well taken penalty kick from 30 metres to take the score to 8-5 to Bonymaen.

This again gave the Swansea side a lift but the Athletic's defence was excellent.

The coaches began to use the very strong bench to good effect and to bring some fresh legs on to battle into the howling gale with Ben Jones coming on at full back for Liam Phillips, Jake Williams at scrum half for Tom McCauley and Craig Lewis at No. 10 for Josh Carey.

In the forwards Geraint Lang came on for Curtis Daniel, Zach Evans for George Carter, Ellis James for Matthew Bennett and Cian House for Scott Cusack.

Bridgend Athletic's pack was slowly beginning to get on top of the Bonymaen eight and with scrum half Jake Williams controlling

things around the base of the scrum, there followed one of the best periods of play of the entire match when the Athletic rolled a series of rucks and mauls fully 70 metres.

After some heroic play the Athletic crashed over the Bonymaen line with five minutes to go, only to see the referee rule that the ball had been held up.

By this time the Athletic pack were not going to be denied and from the attacking scrum the ball was taking into another rolling maul and eventually replacement back row forward Geraint Lang got over for what would prove to be the winning score.

The conversion went wide to take the score to 10-8 to Bridgend Athletic, and two minutes later the referee blew the whistle for what must be the toughest game so far this season.

The coaches could not praise the 23 man squad highly enough in what was a game where team spirit was tested to the limits and the Athletic showed just how this group of players have developed this season.

The hard work will now continue next week in preparation for the District Cup match next week when Bryncestin travel to Newbridge Fields.

MP



BARRY TYRE & AUTO CENTRE LTD

Don't get caught out this winter! Why should I fit winter tyres?

More than half of UK motorists admit feeling less safe driving in the winter, yet many of us do little to prepare our cars for the colder weather. Research commissioned by TyreSafe, the UK's leading tyre safety organisation, found the biggest worry for drivers in the winter is that they are more likely to have an accident as the roads feel more slippery.

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Last year, drivers struggled without winter tyres

- 54% of drivers said they felt less safe when driving in the winter.
- 45% of drivers said their biggest fear about driving in the winter was that they were more likely to have an accident as the roads felt more slippery.
- 1 in 3 drivers skidded on Britain's roads.
- 15% were involved in, or witnessed, an accident.
- 12% only narrowly avoided a collision.
- 1 in 6 drivers had to abandon their journey.

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These stopping distances prove you're less likely to get in a scrape if you switch to winter tyres.

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STUDENTS COMPETE IN WELSH OPEN



ABOVE: Thomas Haysham, Halford. Cody Jacobsen, Maddison Allen, and Cian Allen.

THE Cadoxton Schools of Tae Kwon Do took a small contingent of new and experienced competitors to Aberdare to compete the Welsh Open tournament hosted by Rob Taylor.

The event started with traditional forms with a clean sweep for the Cadoxton School; Cody Jacobsen took first place, and Cian Allen taking second and third went to Maddison Allen.

Once the traditional forms were completed all the Point and Continuous Sparring sections got under way.

In the Point Sparring Cody Jacobsen, Maddison Allen took second place in their respective categories, while Cian Allen and Bradley Halford took third place.

In the Continuous Sparring sections, Cody Jacobsen came away with first place, Bradley Halford second and Maddison Allen third.

Thomas Haysham was entered into both the point and continuous sparring categories, but his coach Ron Thomas pulled him out with an injury as the following week he would be competing at the European games being held in Jersey.

For further information on Cadoxton Schools of Tae Kwon Do, telephone (01446) 406372.

Barrivale bridge club results



Helen Jordan & Judith Owen, winners of the Margaret Calder Cup (ladies' pairs).



Mick Green & Denis Mottram, winners of the Joanne Green Plate (men's pairs).

LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club, October 29:

1st Noelle Bond & Mark Roderick 65%; 2nd Irene Thomas & Joan Jenkins 61.67%; 3rd Denis Mottram & Mike Close 58.75%. Helen Jordan & Judith Owen won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale; if you would like to join us ring 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

RT

BRIDGEND SPORTS under-8s had two matches arranged on Sunday.

Welcoming Kenfig Hill and Mountain Ash at home, there was a nice turnout of players again this week with a squad of 11 - Nathaniel, Callum, Tom, Kian, Joel, McKenzie, Tyron, Iestyn, Dylan, Ruben and Cian.

The first game was against Kenfig Hill and Sports began the game full of beans and spirit. Their hard work at training has really started to show and their recent win seemed to give them the confidence they needed.

Sports were superb with their tagging this week and it seemed Kenfig Hill struggled to get past Sports defence. The first try of the game came from Tom for the Sports.

Kenfig Hill managed to get through the Sports defence and equalise the score to 1-1, which is how it finished.

The second game was against Mountain Ash and as the game began Sports started to show some signs of tiredness and their tagging didn't seem as sharp as it had in the previous game.

Mountain Ash had some quick players who were able to use the Sports tiredness to their advantage and break through the Sports defence and began to

take the lead scoring two tries in quick succession.

Dylan then scored three tries for the Sports to bring the score to 3-2 and the Sports pulled up their socks and began to tighten up their defence and sharpen up their tagging. Mountain Ash then retaliated and scored another two tries, bringing the score to 4-3 to Mountain Ash.

Callum scored a try for Sports and again Mountain Ash retaliated scoring their fifth try. Callum scored another try which was then followed by a try by Joel bringing the score to 6-5 to Sports.

In both games there was some outstanding tagging, passing and tries from Sports and plenty of missed opportunities. The hard work the team and coaches have put in this season is really starting to show in their games.

MVP went to Dylan Morgan for his constant tagging, great running and well-taken tries.

UNDER-9S

The under-9s hosted Kenfig Hill and Mountain Ash in a round robin, but lost both games, 4-1 to Kenfig Hill and 7-5 to Mountain Ash.

In the first game, Kenfig Hill ran in a try from the start and kept going on from there. The Mules showed great defence, pushing the Sports back, forcing handling errors, which in

turn caused the ball to be turned over for them to score again, giving them a 2-0 half time lead.

Although the second half seemed a bit better, with a great try from Shea, Kenfig Hill ran in two more tries to win the half 2-1.

Next was the unbeaten Mountain Ash. The away side again scored from the start, but this time the Sports regrouped and pulled one back.

Mountain Ash then powered their way over again to make it 2-1. The Sports restarted and after some great phases of play scored on half time to make the score 2-2.

The second half was a tough battle, with both sides producing some big tackles and some great tries, but in the end Mountain Ash proved too powerful and took the half 5-3.

Again this week the under-9s looked lethargic in the first game, showing no urgency until the game was lost.

The second game, although lost 7-5, showed some great determination and competed with a very big Mountain Ash side and the victory could have gone to either side.

Also pleasing was the boys starting to pass the ball and play as a team. The use of Oliver this week as a designated scrum half seemed to have paid off and gives us something else to work on in training.

Squad: Fynn, Sam B. Oliver, Tristan, Shea, McKenzie, Max Harris, Max Hemsley, Dan Hughes, Sam Jones, Finley Loundes, Morgan Palethorpe, Kurtis and Joe. Try scorers: McKenzie (3), Shea (3).

UNDER-10S

The under-10s welcomed Kenfig Hill to Newbridge Fields on a blustery Sunday morning.

Sports started strongly and worked their way up to Kenfig's try line. Some quick passing from the ruck allowed Jack space to outstrip the cover defence to score the first try. This was converted by Owain.

Kenfig showed a similar ambition to spread the ball wide and quickly equalized. Strong running from Mac allowed him to break through

Kenfig's defence, scoring a try, with a conversion by Josh. Although Sports had started well, for the rest of the first half some weak tackling allowed Kenfig Hill to score three tries and at half time the score was 14-28.

The start of the second half was a similar story where Kenfig Hill dominated the ruck area and scored two further tries.

Sports showed their resolve and with far more commitment to tackling were able to spread the ball to James, who was able to dance through the defence and score, which was again converted by Owain.

After a good period of play by Sports James found himself in space and eluded the Kenfig tacklers to score. A good effort against tough opposition, the final score was 40-28.

MVP goes to Oliver Gardner for his tackling, his clearance kick and commitment in following up.

Team: Owain Peters, Morgan Rees, Rhys McNally, Rhys Vaughan, Mac Francis, Cullen Lloynton, Tom Gardner, Rory Lee, James Murray, William Littlewood, Joshua Wilkinson, Luke Yates, Will Price, Jack Davies, Rhys Chick, Archie Faulkner-Lerway and Oliver Gardner.

UNDER-11S

In the first half, Sports dominated right from a kick off against Kenfig Hill, and the first try, scored by Dafydd, was the result of a team effort, as the boys put into effect what they have been practising over and over again.

Dafydd also converted ensuring that Bridgend were seven points up within the first couple of minutes.

Although Kenfig managed to pull the scores back the Sports dominated the first half by continuing to play as a team, constantly passing and playing expansive rugby. Tries by Tomos (2), Dafydd and Xander ensured that the score was Sports 35, Kenfig Hill 7 at half time.

Kenfig Hill are also known as the Mules and like the animal the team were stubborn in not giving in. The second half started and Kenfig came out attacking from the

kick off and dominated the second half.

Sports were on the defensive and the team lost the composure and the concentration it showed in the first half.

It was only due to some key defending and some unlucky errors that Kenfig were unable to level the scores, but from nowhere Sports managed to score a try and secure the win.

Captain of the team was Jack and man of match went to Tomos because of his good rucking and passing.

UNDER-14S

The Sports had a tough day at the office against a very accomplished and ruthless Cowbridge side, losing 67-5. The visitors put on an impressive display of rugby and proved to be too strong for the Sports.

Cowbridge scored 11 tries during the match and they started the game off in fine fashion by scoring an early try, which certainly set the tone for the match.

They then went on to score a further five tries where they demonstrated a good skillset by scoring some strong, skilful and quick tries.

In no time at all the Sports were 36-0 down but they showed good effort when they scored a try of their own through scrum half Zak Hemsley who picked the ball up off a ruck and made a dashing run to crash over the line.

Cowbridge then scored another try which made the half time score 41-5 to Cowbridge.

The second half once again saw Cowbridge score a number of tries. Many of their tries were from a long distance and the Sports just couldn't cope with the physical Cowbridge side.

Cowbridge then capped the game off in style when one of their players scored a great individual try, making several hand-offs in the process.

Overall the Sports didn't lose the game because of a lack of effort, they lost it as Cowbridge were far superior in all areas; hopefully they can get back to winning ways next week.

Cefn Riders battle through weather to win

CEFN RIDERS travelled to Baglan for a cup game due to the cancellation of their game the week before.

Due to the weather the game was delayed by 30 minutes as the referee was held up on the way to the game. The start of the game saw the rain driving down onto the pitch with severe winds, but that didn't faze the visitors as the Cefn team took the game to the home side.

The first 20 minutes showed that Baglan were up for the fight, challenging for every scrap of ball, and also doing pretty well with their pick and drive game.

At this time Cefn had their work cut out having to work extra hard in the loose to secure any ball; then, just at the turn of the half, the Riders produced some magic with a cracking try from full back Rob Curl, converted by Tom Carpenter.

At the interval the Riders coaches gave some stern words to the team as the Riders were playing against gale force winds and lashing

rain.

At the kick off the Cefn team went to town, dominating the much bigger Baglan pack, as the Riders' back line produced some fantastic rugby for the conditions.

Next to cross the line was winger Dan Harris, having been put into space by Stu Curl. By now Baglan were showing signs of fatigue by the constant pressure being put on them by the Riders.

The next try was set up by centre Owen Davies and finished off by Rob Curl.

Cefn were now firmly in the driving seat, outplaying the opposition, and there was one more try scorer, veteran coach Geraint Carpenter, who showed his experience on the field by guiding the forwards on.

There were some outstanding performances from Adam Ricketts, Rhys Pilliner, veteran Geraint Carpenter and stand-in captain Chris Bruno, who lead his side to a great win in dreadful conditions, the final score 29-3 to the Riders.

ME

Bridgend bridge club results

ON Wednesday, October 30, the clear winners were Geoff Barnes and Peter Bugden, who have become a force to be reckoned with.

Second were Irene Thomas and Graham Jones and third John Beard and Glyn Williams.

There were no Halloween horror stories on Thursday in the afternoon gentle duplicate, with the best placed improver being Norma Phinnemore, who won, partnered by John Henson, closely followed by V. Irene Thomas and Dilys Bowser, with Stuart Davis and Colin Lewis in third spot.

Remember that all are welcome to attend these Thursday afternoon ses-

sions in Noltan Church Hall, where tuition is followed by supervised play.

For further information please contact either Steve Burgoyne on 01656 661968 or John Evans on 01656 880372, or visit the club website.

Friday's session was divided into North/South and East/West sections, with Bill Turner and Dennis Mottram winning the former, followed by Vida Halford and Glyn Williams, with Liam Sheridan and Alan Williams third.

The East/West section was convincingly won by John Henson and Terry Dolan with an impressive 70 per cent score, with Emer Disley and John Whately second and Graham Jones and Irene Thomas third.

DN



Gymnasts are on top form!



Caitlin Meadows.



Catrin Long and Bethan Wryde.

BARRY YMCA gymnasts put in some great performances at the recent South Central Novice Championships.

Competing against gymnasts from clubs in the counties of Bridgend, Caerphilly, Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda Cynon Taff and the Vale, the Barry gymnasts performed routines on vault, bars, beam and floor.

In the 8/9 years category Bria Karim became the vault champion and also gained a sixth place ribbon on floor. Her team mate Evie Wong gained a third place on bars while the team of Bria, Evie, Celyn Powell, Sophia Foscolo and Tamzin Williams gained 4th place ribbons.

The 10/11 years team of Chloe Gabb, Kelsey Cross, Tesni Gardiner and Caitlin Meadows gained bronze medals and there was also individual success in this age group for the Barry gymnasts.

Tesni placed second on floor and gained a fifth place ribbon on bars, while Kelsey placed third place on bars. Chloe also gained an individual ribbon placing 5th on floor while Caitlin placed fourth on bars and fourth overall, and Seren Williams placed seventh on beam.

The older gymnasts from the club also had success. In the 12/13 years category the team of Catrin Long, Ellice Stockford and Seren Mirza-Davies climbed onto the podium in second position.

All three had individual success with Ellice placing 1st on vault, gained a sixth place ribbon on bars and sixth overall. Catrin placed fifth on beam, fourth on bars and fifth overall while Seren placed second on bars and seventh overall.

Bethan Wride represented Barry in the 14+ years competition. Only competing in her second

four piece competition Bethan gained a fourth place ribbon for her beautiful floor, placed fifth on beam and sixth overall.

Due to their strong overall performances Catrin Long, Caitlin Meadows and Bethan Wride all gained selection to represent the area at the Welsh finals.

In the 10/11 years category Caitlin placed second in Wales on vault as did her clubmate Catrin in the 12/13 years event. Bethan also climbed onto the podium gaining a bronze medal on floor.

All three climbed onto the podium for a second time when Catrin and Bethan helped their respective age group teams to the silver medal and Caitlin assisted the 10/11 years team to bronze.

Well done to all gymnasts and thanks as always to the dedicated coaches and judges at Barry YMCA Gymnastics Club - Aimee, Anne, Caitlin, Charlotte, Leanne, Olivia, Rachel, Kiera and Karen.

For further information regarding the opportunities available at Barry YMCA Gymnastics club please call 01446 724001.

The club will shortly be holding an open session for gymnasts demonstrating the potential and desire to become competitive gymnasts. To register for this session please contact the above number to place your details on the list.

KD

Llantwit Major Cavaliers hold presentation evening



LLANTWIT MAJOR Cavaliers recently held their end-of-season presentation night at the Boverton Castle. A lovely meal was served and the night was enjoyed by all.



Vale Resort offers new technology – but will golfers be as smart as their phones?

NEW 3D technology, with which golfers can benefit from a bird's-eye view of the course before heading out to play, is the latest addition to the golfing facilities at the Vale Resort in Hensol.

The 3D Flyover technology is used by broadcasters such as Sky Sports HD and Matchroom Sport and top tournaments including the PGA EuroPro Tour.

Golfers can watch the journey to the green through aerial shots of each hole, offering insight on how the course should be best played, before teeing off. The flyovers can be watched on the Vale Resort's website or at the Resort's pro shop.

Players tackling the Vale Resort's Wales National Course and Lake Course can also benefit from the 3D-GPS smart phone app with pin-positioning technology. This enables golfers to calculate their distance to the front, middle and back of the green, so they know what club to use.

The resort's GPS app also has a digital guide to playing both of the courses and access to the 3D Golf Flyover of each hole. The app and its GPS technology is also available on fixed screens secured to the resort's golf buggies.

"This technology revolutionises how golfers can prepare before head-



The Lake Course.

Junior netball team has fine start to season

BARRY netball team Red Dragon Juniors have had an exceptional start to the netball season with the under-13 squad and under-11 squad winning all their opening games in the Cardiff and Vale Junior Netball League.

The under-10 have joined the league this year and played well in their first matches against older and more experienced opponents.

The club is now expanding to include netball mini tots and this will encourage chil-

dren aged five to eight to take part in the sport and learn new basic skills, while making great new friends.

The squads are coached by former international Melanie Hellerman who is currently a director of Welsh Netball and the Cardiff and District Area Coach (UKCC Level 2), along with Sharron Allred founder of Red Dragons Senior (UKCC Level 1) and Jo (UKCC Level 1).

If you have a daughter aged five to 13 who would like to join our team, contact Melanie on 077936 52300.

MH

Bridge Club results

SULLY Bridge Club results on Monday, October 28 were as follows:

North/South – First, Trish Tracy and Mike Hurst (64.39 per cent); second, Helen Jordan and Marjorie Morgan, 58.52; third, Peter Millar and Mark Roderick, 56.63.

East/West – First, Anne Macdougall and Anne Hilary Jones, 62.34; second, Sean Macdougall and Italo Basiletti, 62.12; third, Celia Thomas and Huw Thomas, 56.82.

Wednesday, October 30: North/South – First, Peter Millar and Trish Tracy, 71.17; second, Lona Thomas and Joy Secular, 60.59; third, Judy Collins and Janet Cunningham, 60.36.

East/West – First, Anne Johns and Bunty Wiseman, 70.87; second, Anne Macdougall and Anne Hilary Jones, 70.66; third, Celia Thomas and Huw Thomas, 57.02.

STUDENTS SHINE AT CHAMPIONSHIPS



ON Sunday October 28, the Tae Kwon Do schools of Rhose and Llantwit Major competed in the Welsh closed championships.

The event was held at the Newport University campus Caerleon, with over 250 competitors from all over Wales.

Our students fought hard on the day with Ashton Curnick and Rhys Doel shining in the lightweight ranks, both winning first in green belt and red belt divisions, taking home gold medals.

Harry Burningham came a

close second for the silver medal in the lightweight red belt division; we also had Jake Hayvick competing at his first tournament, winning his first match to go out in the second round (well done Jake!) and a hard fought round for Josh Edwards, who narrowly missed out!

The team event brought success with Menna Birmingham placing second in her team and Josh Edwards, Harri Burningham and Rhye Doel placing third.

Our newcomers to the competition circuit showed courage on all levels. Sean Edwards and Zac Hayvick both fought in the tiny tot

division (under four foot) and Lynne Doel of Rhose, who runs her own childcare business, fought in the adult ladies' red belt division.

Lynne, who's only a yellow belt, fought in the higher ranks on the day - well done!

It was a good day for the clubs, whose success and hard work continue to grow, well done from all our team, keep chasing those medals!

For more information on our team or classes please visit jstkd.co.uk or call 07711 234500.

EJS

Local vaulters' success



THE English Vaulting Championships were held at the Unicorn Centre Stow in the Wold on Saturday, October 26.

Rhi Hill from Cowbridge landed first place in the pre-novice individual and Carys Morgan, a Liverpool veterinary student from Church Village, came in first place in the bronze section of the senior individual; both performed in canter.

It was the first time competing for these young vaulters, who took third place with their Dalmatian routine in the 'walk class'.

CR

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2011 61 Reg MINI One Countryman	Bright Yellow, Cosmos Black Cloth, Silver Alloys, Pepper Pack	15k	£12,850
2011 61 Reg MINI Cooper Hatch	Ice Blue, Cosmos Black Cloth, 15" Alloys, Chrome Line Exterior, Pepper Pack	21k	£11,450
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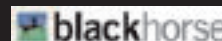
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BARRY GET THE WIN OVER LOCAL RIVALS

FACING heavy rain and gale force winds last Saturday, the Bard's description could well apply to the home supporters - "We few, we happy few, we band ...".

It certainly required both an efficient raincoat and a generous reserve of optimism to last the distance!

Barry played with both pitch slope and elements at their backs for the first session. It was clear that a substantial lead was necessary at the turn-round if they were to prevail.

Cowbridge utilized the only sensible tactic of playing the game tight to the set pieces and denying the home side as much possession and territory as possible.

Interestingly, Barry also played a forward orientated game in the opening stages, with the

ball rarely going beyond the halfbacks.

This option soon bore fruit when Provis forced his way over the whitewash from close range. The conversion was missed from an eminently favourable position.

Indiscipline in the home ranks saw an unnecessary yellow card being issued for using unacceptable language to the referee.

Cowbridge made the most of the ensuing manpower shortage to cross for a good try wide out.

With Tanner and Buckland proving a handful for the visitors, pressure resulted in two well-struck penalties.

A final penalty saw the Barry lead stretched to nine points going into the interval.

This margin appeared to be insufficient given the effect the conditions were having on proceedings.

From the outset of

the second period, the whole Barry team showed that they were prepared to put in a full shift of tackling and ball carrying to ensure that Cowbridge had minimal opportunity to utilize the elements.

The visitors did break out to score a good try through their back division.

Barry replied with some sterling forward drives; with evergreen Tanner and Hollister to the fore, they set up camp on the Cowbridge line.

This stranglehold created sufficient pressure for Barry to make

the crucial score of the second half.

It came after 30 minutes when prop forward, O'Sullivan, forced he over the visitors' try line.

With both sets of players feeling the effects of a strenuous afternoon's work, it was left to the visitors to round off proceedings with a late penalty, the score finishing 19-15.

A curious facet of this game was that both teams played their best rugby when facing horrendous playing conditions!

CO

Cowbridge's Cup progress

VIFC held out until the final minutes of extra time before conceding defeat against Cowbridge Town and leave the Barry Cup competition with their heads high.

Despite having their fair share of opportunities to win the game themselves and the match looking to go to penalties, VIFC finally conceded in the dying minutes of extra-time.

Straight from Cowbridge's kick-off, the VTs looked to stun their opponents and Leigh Lewis's pressure created an early opportunity for Phil Morgan to score.

The weather began to prove an issue for both sides as strong winds

and heavy rain increased the difficulty with crossers wondering wide and the pitch beginning to suffer.

Into the second half, both teams continued to struggle to create clear cut chances.

Phil Morgan dashed into the box and was brought down by a Cowbridge defender. Jordan Mortimore's spot kick fired low and just wide.

RC

Edmondes win in local derby

COWBRIDGE DARTS LEAGUE

ON Tuesday, October 29, Llanharry took their unbeaten run to five games with an 8-1 victory over the Highwayman Inn.

In the other matches, the Edmondes B won 7-2 against the Cross Inn, the Farmers Arms defeated the Old Post Ladies 5-4 and the Star Inn lost 0-9 against the Hare and Hounds. Edmondes C came out on top in the all-Edmondes tie, beating the Edmondes A 6-3.

Present league standings, after five matches, are: Llanharry (39 points), Edmondes B (33), Edmondes C (28), Hare and Hounds (26), Farmers Arms (23),

Edmondes A (22), Highwayman Inn (20), Cross Inn (17), Old Post Ladies (8), The Star Inn (0).

Next week, Tuesday, November 12, it is the turn of the Hare and Hounds to host the present league leaders Llanharry. Edmondes B host the Farmers Arms, the Old Post Ladies host the Edmondes C, the Cross Inn host the Star Inn and the Highwayman Inn host the Edmondes A.

All matches start at 8.30pm and spectators are welcome. Note all teams can register new players till the New Year so to play darts this season get in touch. For further information e-mail Paul at cowbridgedarts@gmail.com.

PJT

Plenty of action at Llandow Kart Club

LLANDOW Kart Club interrupted its summer season to stage the Grande Finals of the National Kart Racing Association championships on the last weekend of September, and home advantage proved key for some of the more local drivers.

That was never more apparent than in the Cadet classes, where Ethan Ling and Tom Rawlings continued their strong Llandow form to sweep to success in both the NKRA and Libre competitions.

Ling topped the Honda-powered runners in each of the four NKRA heats, and crossed the line first in all but one - when Rawlings took the flag - before sweeping to victory by three seconds in the final, where fellow Llandow members Ross Deal and Joshua Martin completed the Honda podium.

Rawlings, meanwhile, enjoyed similar success in the Comer class, only missing out on top spot in heat four, when Forest Edge's Daniel Lampert took the honours.

Rawlings, who has generally swept all before him in the LKC series, then redressed the balance in the main event, crossing the line just over a second clear of his rival, with Llandow's Max Fenlon taking third place.

In the Cadet Libre competition, run to help cover the costs of staging the two-day standalone NKRA event, Ling was again the man to beat, winning two of the three heats before taking the top step of the podium after the final. Martin took the remaining heat win, but had to settle for second place in the final, with Stuart and Oscar Ferguson - both Llandow regulars - separated by just 0.08secs in the battle for third.

Rawlings was denied a sweep of both Comer classes as Lampert took both heat three and the final. Rawlings and Fenlon each took a heat win, but it was Rissington's Connor Kearney who rounded out the podium party, taking third ahead of Thomas Nippers, while Fenlon completed the top five.

With just five combined runners, the Junior TKM and Junior Blue classes were combined on track. That allowed sole TKM entry Harry Milward to at least find some opposition on track, having made the trip over from Clay Pigeon, while the four Blue drivers - two of whom travelled from the west of Scotland - battled gamely before Josh Graham emerged on top in every outing. Aaron Smith and novice Taylor Waldron completed the podium in the final, which was enough for Smith the claim the overall title.

Senior Blue boasted a big field on paper but, such was the quantity that six heats and a 'B' Final were required to cope. Stephen Philip (3), Matt Helps, Douglas Simpson and Martin Wheeler shared the six heat wins, and Helps added the 'B' Final before the main event saw Philip return to the head of the class, leading from lights to flag.

While he escaped the carnage that saw Chris Derrick landing on top of Wheeler and several others caught up in the melee, Douglas Simpson and eventual champion Sam Dible came through to complete the podium, with Derrick claiming the Masters crown after battling back to sixth on the road. Stuart Gray took the Veterans title, with Ron Shone and Simpson taking home the Legends and Top Weight crowns respectively.

All in all, the meeting worked out a great success for Llandow,

with the addition of the Libre competition helping make the event profitable, and the club would like to thank those members who gave up their time to help out.

RESULTS

NKRA CADET HONDA - 1. Ethan Ling (Project One), 2. Ross Deal (Project One), 3. Joshua Martin (Project One).

NKRA CADET COMER - 1. Tom Rawlings (Zip), 2. Daniel Lampert (Zip), 3. Max Fenlon (Birel).

LIBRE CADET HONDA - 1. Ethan Ling (Project One), 2. Joshua Martin (Project One), 3. Stuart Ferguson (Project One).

LIBRE CADET COMER - 1. Daniel Lampert (Zip), 2. Tom Rawlings (Zip), 3. Connor Kearney (Zip).

JUNIOR TKM - 1. Harry Milward (Zanardi).

JUNIOR BLUE - 1. Josh Graham (Gillard), 2. Aaron Smith (Birel), 3. Taylor Waldron (Mac).

FORMULA BLUE - 1. Stephen Philip (Maranello), 2. Douglas Simpson (Intrepid), 3. Sam Dible (Alonso).

BEST NOVICE: Jakob Chamberlain (Comer Cadet).

The penultimate round of Llandow Kart Club's summer championship attracted 68 runners across eleven classes, but fell foul of the change in conditions that accompanied summer's transition to autumn.

Two Bambinos, Nathan Browning and Ella Stevens, got proceedings under way, and ran three of their four timed events before electing not to venture out for the finale because of the worsening conditions. Their times were adjusted for the varying conditions and both got gold awards although, according to class overseer Nigel Kent, Stevens' performance in the third session was particularly notable.

The 24 assorted Cadet runners, spread over three classes, made for an impressive sight but, once again there was no denying Ethan Ling, who won two of the three heats before cruising to a four-second victory in the final and taking another step towards the Honda title. George Alp-Williams claimed a season's best second in the main event, earning himself driver of the day honours in the process, with Ross Deal fourth on the road, but able to take the final step of the podium. Jem Hepworth, who claimed Honda honours in the other heat, was sixth in class in the final.

Third under the flag in the final was leading Comer runner Tom Rawlings, claiming another class win despite having faced stiff opposition throughout the day from Max Fenlon, who claimed two heats to Rawlings one, and crossed the line first overall in the second race of the day. Fenlon's final, however, ended after just three laps, giving Rawlings a relatively easy ride, with Joshua Davis and Thomas Nippers completing the podium.

The third Cadet class, IAME, featured two runners, with Shay Keough coming out on top of Jensen Watts in three of the four races.

Junior Honda numbers rose to eight and produced something of a surprise as Ben Stevens was denied a clean sweep of victories. Despite taking the first two races, the championship leader had to give best to Cristiano Nardone in heat three, and then managed only third in the final as Nardone headed Ainsley Shea-Godden across the line. Tom Croydon, who had twice finished second in heats, claimed fourth in the main event. Junior TKM was slightly reduced in number, and it was

Welsh champion Yousuf Ashraf who came out on top, winning heats two and three before claiming the final by just over a second from Louis Beaven, who opened the day with success in race one. Sam Johns, who finished second in heat two, was third overall, ahead of Hugo Holmes and Alex Rees.

Junior and Mini Max were again combined to make a seven-strong field, with the former appearing to go the way of Rob Ellis - until Morgan Rose snatched victory in the final by just 0.030secs! David Spiller, who had filled a watching brief throughout the heats, was left to fill third spot once again.

In Minimax, Ceran Sokhi and Joe Pritchard shared the spoils in the qualification races, before the latter came out on top in the final as well. Jodie Handford completed the podium.

Senior Honda returned to the slate after missing a couple of months, and saw Chris Lipscomb dominate the heats with three comfortable victories. However, when the national championship runner failed to line up for the final, it opened the door for 'heavyweight' Hugh Jones to claim the top step of the podium from Nigel Vickery and Jack Hixon. With Jones technically in a class of his own, Paul Saunders completed the 'regular' top three.

Championship leader Josh Collings was not about to be so forgiving in Senior Rotax, once again claiming all four race wins. He was pushed close in each, with Daryl Henderson's 0.6secs margin of defeat in heat two the narrowest of all. Henderson then proved to be Collings' nearest rival in the final, crossing the line just over a second adrift of the winner. Steven Handford completed the podium, ahead of Sebastian Hutchinson and Ashley Lewis, while Max 177 honours went the way of Dunkeswell's Terry Milton after rivals Wayne Stone and Nicky Coombs both failed to start the final.

RESULTS

BAMBINI - Gold Award: Nathan Browning (CRG), Ella Stevens (CK).

CADET HONDA - 1. Ethan Ling (Project One), 2. George Alp-Williams (Project One), 3. Ross Deal (Project One).

CADET COMER - 1. Tom Rawlings (Zip), 2. Joshua Davis (Zip), 3. Thomas Nippers (Zip).

CADET IAME - 1. Shay Keough (Zip), 2. Jensen Watts (Zip).

JUNIOR HONDA - 1. Cristiano Nardone (7Kart), 2. Ainsley Shea-Godden (MS), 3. Ben Stevens (7Kart).

JUNIOR TKM - 1. Yousuf Ashraf (Jade), 2. Louis Beaven (Tonykart), 3. Sam Johns (Jade).

JUNIOR ROTAX - 1. Morgan Rose (Tonykart), 2. Rob Ellis (Kosmic), 3. David Spiller (Alonso).

MINI MAX - 1. Joe Pritchard (Tonykart), 2. Ceran Sokhi (Kosmic), 3. Jodie Handford (Tonykart).

SENIOR HONDA - 1. Nigel Vickery (Stratos), 2. Jack Hixon (7Kart), 3. Paul Saunders (7Kart).

SENIOR HONDA HEAVY - 1. Hugh Jones (MS).

SENIOR ROTAX - 1. Josh Collings (CRG), 2. Daryl Henderson.

3. Steven Handford (Tonykart). **SENIOR ROTAX 177** - 1. Terry Milton (RedSpeed), 2. Wayne Stone (Tonykart).

BEST NOVICE: Chris Grey (Senior Rotax), **DRIVER OF THE DAY:** George Alp-Williams (Honda Cadet).

CRAIG LLEWELLYN

Under-8s show improvement

COWBRIDGE under-8s travelled to Llantwit Fardre to play four matches on astroturf in cold windy conditions which took the players a little time to get used to.

Team 1 found themselves 3-0 down very quickly, but began to get back into the game with tries from Osian Bruce (2) and Joe Davies, which came as a result of their support play and determined running from Sam Sheppard and James Collingridge.

However Llantwit played excellent running rugby throughout and although Cowbridge improved in the second half they were always playing catch up. Further Cowbridge tries came from Ned Rees, James Lord (2) and Joe D, all demonstrating good passing and support running, however they lost the game 12-7.

Cowbridge started brightly in their second

game, with tries coming from Osian thanks to the switch with Sam Sheppard, and a wide run from Harry New.

The opposition got back into the game but the team secured a 5-3 victory thanks to tries from Ioan Phillips after a powerful run by Sam Jackson, and two further scores by the elusive Osian.

Team 2 played two keenly contested matches, losing 8-6 in the first, with tries coming from Jacob Robson (2), Ben Stephenson (2), Ollie Gale and Josh Canning.

In the second game Llantwit just edged a 5-4 victory, despite good tries from Charlie Berkley-Smith, Henry Davies and Jacob who continued his impressive running with two further tries.

Overall, an improvement on the three defeats and a draw from the same fixture earlier on in the season.

PS

Evan's Dream Carlisle trip

A 560 mile round trip from Llanarfan to Carlisle paid off handsomely for Evan Williams when his six-year-old Definite Dream won the Novices' Limited Handicap Chase under stable jockey Paul Moloney.

Definite Dream, Evan's only runner at the meeting, won by a length from Firth Of Clyde at odds of 100-30.

BRIAN LEE



GEM sport

After the off-field turmoil over who governs Europe.... Springboks are the Welsh team's big game focus



Picture by Huw
Evans Agency

IN 1974, the then Prime Minister, Edward Heath, famously ended weeks of conflict with the trades unions by putting the case for the status quo to the public's vote – with the slogan 'WHO GOVERNS BRITAIN?' – a miscalculation that rebounded in a hung Parliament and his eventual replacement by bitter leadership rival, Margaret Thatcher.

While the worlds of politics and sport as yet, thankfully, converge on only rare occasions (a notable example being the London Olympics) there is, nevertheless, a certain parallel to be drawn in the very public acrimony over the future of Europe's Heineken Cup that has threatened rugby union's equivalent of civil war – and has seemed to be less about the notion of 'fairness' than a naked struggle for

BACK PAGE COMMENT by Don John

power and control of a large chunk of the professional game in the northern hemisphere.

Many have accepted the need for reform and restructuring, to correct anomalies in the qualification system for European competition, and expressed some sympathy with the English Premiership and French league clubs, who also demanded a more equitable three-way split of financial proceeds with the Rabo Direct Pro 12 of Wales, Ireland, Scotland and Italy, than the prevailing 48%-52%.

However, what might have been reasonable grounds for negotiation soon became evident as nothing less than an Anglo-French *putsch*, designed to break away from the ERC's Heineken Cup altogether and replace it with their own Rugby Champions Cup; underwritten by a fat TV contract with BT Sport (in preference to current Heineken broadcaster, Sky).

At the same time, they invited the Pro 12 clubs to join "if they so wished", thus effectively sidelining the national unions, who were not prepared to sanction the move (apart from the RFU, who hovered nervously on the fence).

The war of words went on apace, with the FFR (Federation Francaise de Rugby) describing the new tournament as "irrelevant and inappropriate".

Meanwhile, the French league clubs' spokesman Paul Goze was insisting that "the Heineken Cup is dead" – as they would not take part in a European competition without the English clubs, who would henceforth be contracted to BT Sport.

The English clubs had bluntly declared that "next year there will be a Rugby Champions Cup – or there will be nothing", which clearly left little room for manoeuvre.

The situation escalated when the four cash-strapped Welsh regions, fearing a disastrous loss of revenue, ignored WRU warnings and came out in favour of the rival European competition, lured by the promise of improved financial rewards.

Since then, it appears the warring parties have drawn closer together, but at the time of writing it is still not clear if the fundamental question of who governs European rugby in the long run has been fully answered. (Mind you, unlike Edward Heath's 'who governs?' question in 1974, there is no chance of it being put to the rugby public's vote!)

Some very harsh things have been said and one can only hope that the fallout will have done no lasting damage to European relations.

At least attention now shifts to the place that really matters – the field of play – and for Wales, this means the autumn internationals and, more immediately, the renewal of hostilities with South Africa, who pipped them by just one point (17-16), when last they met two years ago at the Rugby World Cup in New Zealand.

While displays in the RWC and, more recently, the epic 30-3 win over England in the Six Nations earlier this year, have put a spring in the step of Welsh rugby, giving rise to renewed hope that the national team under Warren Gatland really has turned an important corner in terms of long-sought consistency, there can be no doubting the huge test that lies ahead at the Millennium Stadium, Cardiff on Saturday.

After all, the Welsh dragon has lost all but one of its 26 clashes (with one match drawn) against the Springboks, since they first met 107 years ago, on December 1, 1906 at St Helens, Swansea, going down 0-11.

Wales lost the next four in a row by narrow margins – before the gap between the two began to widen in 1995, with a 40-11 defeat for the tourists at Eden Park, Johannesburg.

Worse was to follow three years later, on June 27, 1998, with that infamous horror show at Loftus Versfeld, Pretoria, when rampant Springboks ran in 15 tries, to overwhelm Wales by 96-13 – as the jeering crowd cried out for more. Amazingly, just one year later, a heroic Wales team gained revenge with their first, and only, victory, 28-19, over the stunned Springboks at a half-completed new Millennium Stadium.

South African superiority was re-established in 2004 with another hefty 53-19 win, but the gap truly began to narrow in new head coach Gatland's first Grand Slam year, 2008, when battling Wales were edged out 15-20 at the Millennium Stadium.

The encouraging, but frustrating trend has continued – with only a handful of points separating them – the one-point margin at RWC 2011 following the four-point (25-29) deficit at the Millennium Stadium in 2010, on the last autumn occasion the two teams met in Cardiff.

The overall statistics may not make comfortable reading, with South Africa winning 24 out

So near and yet so far...again!

The last time the two teams met in the World Cup, South Africa scraped a one-point win over impressive Wales. Revenge would be sweet on Saturday, as the men in red strive for that elusive southern hemisphere scalp.

of the 26 matches and rattling up a total of 715 points to Wales' 367.

However, there is a new spirit abroad in this confident young Welsh squad, and while no-one underestimates the challenge they face from arguably the second best team in the world, it surely cannot be long now before they start to accumulate those coveted southern hemisphere scalps and complete the transformation under Gatland.

That startling, though isolated, 28-19 win in 1999, proved it can be done – and Welsh fortunes have come on leaps and bounds since then under the canny Kiwi.

Success in the autumn campaign would mark a major milestone on the carefully mapped-out road to the next Rugby World Cup.

It surely cannot be long before nail-bitingly narrow defeats are turned into triumph over the southern hemisphere big boys – and Saturday at the Millennium Stadium is a good place for Wales to begin the process of reversing the trend!

Apart from the All Blacks, they couldn't face a tougher obstacle this weekend. While England may have pointed the way with their 20-13 victory over the out-of-sorts Wallabies at Twickenham on Saturday, the match-hardened Springboks should prove more formidable opposition for a notoriously slow-starting Wales side, who will certainly not want a repeat of the whitewash they suffered in last year's autumn tests.

WALES TEAM: Leigh Halfpenny (Blues), George North (Northampton Saints), Jonathan Davies (Scarlets), Scott Williams (Scarlets), Eli Walker (Ospreys), Rhys Priestland (Scarlets), Mike Phillips (Unattached): Gethin Jenkins (Blues), Richard Hibbard (Ospreys), Adam Jones (Ospreys), Bradley Davies (Blues), Alun Wyn Jones (Ospreys), Dan Lydiate (Racing Metro), Sam Warburton (Blues, capt), Toby Faletau.

Replacements: Ken Owens (Scarlets), Paul James (Bath), Scott Andrews (Blues), Luke Charteris (Perpignan), Justin Tipirici (Ospreys), Lloyd Williams (Blues), James Hook (Perpignan), Liam Williams (Scarlets).

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